



CHAMPS RETIRE

All the details on
page two



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WEEKLY

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**SOUTH
MELBOURNE**



Special

**BEACH
FASHIONS
CUP FINAL**

VICTORIA'S NIGHT!



**SYDNEY
CROATIA**



The Editor

VICTORIA'S move towards consolidating its State League competition could result in a better class of football, with the possibility of better attendances.

As with the NSW State Bank League there needs to be a decreased number of teams to improve quality generally.

There is a view in the Victorian hierarchy that 'social' teams must be wound up, enabling communities to again link up behind major clubs.

Victoria as it stands has limited junior numbers and, if lower leagues are reduced, how much Soccer will be played in the widespread districts of Melbourne.

It takes many juniors to service senior clubs with high standard Australian products.

People, be they post-war migrants, descendants of migrants or others whose forebears have been in Australia for longer periods, change their places of residence in accordance with varying patterns.

So certain clubs could be wound up and the standard of the 'parent' club increased. But distance could still be a barrier to increased attendances.

It is food for thought, especially as Melbourne is so bombarded by Australian rules propaganda.

Taking another factor, say if the West End NSL did change to a 'summer' format. The main Soccer following could change to summer.

A dozen Victorian State League teams would try to fill the winter gap.

But the playing side — the sport for the general public who like Soccer and want their exercise and interest — where would it be?

It is quite clear from the Sydney Morning Herald-The Age survey conducted by the Saulwick organisation that 35 per cent of Sydneysiders expressed a very real interest in Soccer to nine per cent of Melbournites.

This big percentage Sydney's way has been completely turned around on such occasions as when Juventus played in Melbourne. Indeed the reasons for Sydney's — and Brisbane's — fall away in international attendances should be properly explored.

That 35 per cent figure in Sydney, which applies just as readily to Wollongong, Newcastle, the country and Canberra for that matter, has been achieved because of the structure of football in NSW.

It is a widespread game, taking in the whole community including the Australians of Anglo-Saxon and Celtic descent who set it up and are involved in their many tens of thousands.

Associations that rarely get a mention in these columns have up to 10,000 players on the park every weekend.

Unfortunately, when it comes to the point, you don't find many Anglo-Saxons, Chinese, Vietnamese, people from South American countries etc who are prepared to support the Sydney NSL clubs who are largely confined to four other ethnic backgrounds.

JOHN YZENDOORN IS TO BOW OUT

By GREG BLAKE

BRUNSWICK Juventus star John Yzendoorn called it a day, and then scored Brunswick Juventus' only goal is his final game.

In a shock announcement just prior to his club's last game of the season at home against Apia-Leichhardt, the veteran made his retirement decision official.

The former Victorian and Australian star decided to quit on medical advice.

An operation on his left ankle two years ago has left the joint arthritic.

"I don't want to be a cripple by the time I'm 40 or 50," Yzendoorn told me on the eve of his farewell game.

"My health in the years to come is most important to me.

"I won't be playing again and that includes the Dockerty Cup games that start on Thursday."

Speculation has had it that the recent NSL 200-gamer might be preparing to quit and he confirmed that he had told Brun-

wick Juventus of his decision back in June.

"I think the problem has been that many at the club can't accept that tomorrow is my last game and that I am going to finish," he told me.

At 32 Yzendoorn still plays and masters the game with consummate ease and looked to have at least two more good years in him at NSL level.

"I've played professionally for the last 16 years and at the moment my work is keeping my time occupied," he explained.

"I might go to a few games but I'm having no involvement with Soccer for the time being.

"I don't know how it's going to feel out of the game and I don't know what I'm going to miss.

"But certainly it was a funny feeling attending

my final training session last Friday."

Juventus coach and Yzendoorn's boss through a long standing partnership, Len McKendry, was as stunned as any at his departure.

"It's certainly surprising in a way because I believed John was just about at his peak as a player - this year he has been outstanding for us," McKendry said.

"Personally I'd like to see him carry on for as long as possible but I guess that's just being selfish.

"Deep down I know he's doing the right thing for his future."

The McKendry-Yzendoorn partnership has spanned three NSL clubs plus the state team and McKendry admits to feeling "nostalgic" about the end of the team-up.

"To be honest it's been on my mind all

week," he said.

"We've been together for nearly nine years and we've achieved about everything possible at club and state levels.

"Now it's the end of line for one of us."

the little man will not be content to sit out of Soccer forever.

His coaching career may well get a start with NSW State Bank League club — Uruguayan Penrith.

Estavillo played in Uruguay with Penarol for two years and Wanderers for another three and spent three more in the Greek First Division playing for Olympiakos and Yannina.

After that he returned briefly to Uruguay for a seven month stint with Bella Vista before having a stint in the United States.

He then took up an offer to come to Australia, playing for Auburn Uruguay in 1985. He was snapped up by Olympic last year and made his NSL debut against Canterbury Marrickville in a 4-0 win.

Meanwhile FRANK COLETTA reports

Sydney Olympic's gifted midfielder VICENTE ESTAVILLO, who like Yzendoorn is 32, has decided to retire also.

The Uruguayan born playmaker had been thinking of calling it a day at seasons end as early as May and made the announcement on the weekend after his club drew 2-all with rival Greek club South Melbourne.

The loss of Estavillo is a sad one for the National League which yearns for players of his calibre but

PROMOTIONAL LINK-UP IN WOLLONGONG

ENTREPRENEUR Harry Michaels has taken a tremendous step to link up in an NSL promotion deal with Wollongong City.

Writes Champion coach Rale Rasic

A very successful businessman, his love for the game is beyond anything.

In recent years he has been prepared to take over or work with West Adelaide, Sydney Olympic and Sydney City, but these offers didn't come to fruition.

Whilst I greatly admire his drive and realise that he is very conversant with the business world, Australian Soccer is run on a semi-professional or amateur basis, and this can bring its pitfalls.

Whether Harry can rise above them is something yet to be seen. It will be good for Soccer if he can.

Say that things don't go well. Under those circumstances a businessman can't be expected to stay on the scene for long — that could only apply if all is well.

The Sportsplay-Powerplay organisation which is connected to Sydney Swans has big problems.

There are recent reports that Sportsplay in the red for more than \$4 million at present, and their \$20 million float has fallen through.

At Apia we have Joe Prestia, a shrewd businessman, a real no-nonsense operator, who demanded full power over the club.

I personally have the highest regard for Wollongong City chairman Lawrie Kelly.

Kelly is certainly backed by John Vlietstra and a good team of directors and officials.

Bringing in overseas players has its difficulties. Paolo Rossi was one player quoted by Harry, but he has two bad knees and I don't believe he would be a success here.

APIA has ticked because Joe Prestia handled the business side, and passed over the technical side to those with the expertise.

The right people are needed to select the players.

even the great Warner Brothers decided to dispense with Bogicevic, Neeskens etc and Pele had gone his own way, they collapsed.

With APIA Joe Prestia has been furious over the attendances — how long can he take it?

Returning to Harry Michaels, I wish him every success for his courage.

It will be great for the game if he chalks up a huge show that builds up the code, and it is a partnership that lasts for 20 years.

Melita's Raul

Few coaches have Raul Blanco's affection and passion for Soccer.

This could be clearly seen from the number of NSW State Bank League clubs that were keen to snare him.

Melita Eagles have always had a soft spot for Raul as a coach, and that is where he will be next season.

Uruguayan Penrith so much wanted to retain

him.

Although they knew that he had changed over to Melita, no less than eight of their officials were at Sydney Airport to wish him a good trip to Argentina.

He deserves every success for the coming year.



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YOUNG SOCCEROOS GET OFF TO A BRILLIANT START

From SANTIAGO POZO

SANTIAGO, CHILE: THE Australian youth side got off on the right foot on Monday morning when they accounted for little known African nation Togo, 2-0 in Santiago in their opening match in the first round of the World Youth Championship.

Australia was much superior and may have won by a bigger margin had their finishing been better.

The young Aussies showed their experience as they blotted out the Togo side, which became increasingly incensed at not being allowed into the match.

The result was an encounter that never really got going, stop-starting for the many fouls in it.

In fact both sides ended the game with 10 men as Australia had defender John Koch sent off in the 77th minute for time-wasting and Togo's Somu was shown the red card for serious foul play.

Les Scheinflug's side were not exactly exempt from causing tempers to fray as they continually booted the ball high, wide and handsome in the second half when in command with the 2-0 lead.

After six minutes Alistair Edwards had the green and golds ahead when his chip eluded Togo goalkeeper Apedo.

Just eight minutes later, skipper Kurt Reynolds rose above everyone in the area to power a header into the net.

The African side had a chance to grab a goal back before half-time but Salou's penalty attempt crashed against the bar

and away.

From there on the young Australians contented themselves in retaining possession, not giving Togo any chance to fightback.

Coach Scheinflug was understandably happy with the result but warned the team would still have to improve for the matches against Yugoslavia and Chile.

"They will be different

types of opposition," he said. "We will have to make sure we don't go in too complacent and undo the good start we have had."

Scheinflug's main worry will be a replacement for Koch, who is a vital member of the side.

AUSTRALIA: Hughes, Healey, Kulcsar, Reynolds, Koch (sent-

off), Hristodoulou, Polak (van Blerk), Grbac, Saad, Trimboli, Edwards.

TOGO: Apedo, Somu, Affo, Hounze, Hope (Amouzou-Kpakpa), Bassarou, Ali, Amazu, Agunyo, Salou, Kebabalo.

CROWD: 30,000.
Referee: Abdulla Al-Nasir (Saudi Arabia).

Yellow Cards: Koch, Saad and Hughes (Aus). Salou and Somu (Togo).

**Youth finals
off to
big start**

IN other World Youth finals championship matches Yugoslavia and Chile got the ball rolling in front of a massive 70,000 diehard supporters at the National Stadium in Santiago.

The hearty crowd braved the cold and rain which drenched the field and players but were able to witness a magnificent performance by the Europeans in which they beat the hosts 4-2.

The star of the show was 18-year-old Red Star midfielder Robert Prosenicki, who turned on the skills despite the poor conditions.

Prosenicki is an interesting young man. Just over a year ago, Dinamo Zagreb of all clubs sent the youngster packing, claiming he wasn't good enough... he subsequently was given a trial by Red Star and is now being hailed as a future world star.

You wonder how the coach who told him to leave Zagreb is feeling now?

Meantime reigning world champions Brazil blitzed Nigeria 4-0 in Concepcion in front of 25,000 people. The goals came from William (2), Alcindo and Cruz.

Bulgaria defeated the USA 1-0 in Antofagasta, Vassilev scoring at the 26th minute mark, and Scotland beat East Germany 2-1 in Valparaiso with a crowd of 18,000 at that game.



JOHN KOCH... unlucky to be sent off against Togo.

THE BEACH FASHIONS' FINALS

By JOHN ECONOMOS

DESPITE their relatively quiet West End NSL season by their own high standards, Sydney Croatia will be out in full fury in the first leg of the Beach Fashions Cup final.

Their opponents at St George Stadium tonight (Wednesday) are the doughty South Melbourne Hellas.

Croatia, last season's Northern Division Champions, suffered an 11 week slump, but came good again to qualify for the semi-final starting next week.

But they fell back heavily on Sunday when Marconi thrashed them 5-0 at home.

For South Melbourne's Brian Garvey there is the joy of having midfield ace Richard Miranda avail-

able again after a two match suspension.

Garvey said: "We haven't been an ultra defensive team and have tried to play attacking Soccer all year.

"We don't intend to give anything away, but on the other hand it would be great to come back to Melbourne with an advantage for the second leg."

Carl Halford has a slight leg injury, but he could be right for the game.

Having just missed narrowly on a semi-final

place, the Hellas team could be really fired up for this one - their chance of glory for the year.

What concerned Sydney Croatia's player-coach Vedran Rozic most was the fact that four of the five Marconi goals came from headers.

"Although we didn't play that badly against Marconi, four headers were just far too many," he said.

Rozic predicted that South Melbourne would put up a hard fight tonight.

"We just have to win the first leg in Sydney tonight to make it a little easier for us on Sunday afternoon in Melbourne.

"Charlie Egan, Steve Blair, Bobby Russell and their scheming midfielders like Paul Wade, Carl Halford and Gary McDowall will make things very hard for us.

"But remember this is Cup football. Despite the fact that in the league we beat them 2-0 at home and drew 1-1 in Melbourne, anything can happen," Rozic warned.

SUMMER SOCCER A BLUNDER

Dear Gatty

I was most interested to read your comments in ASW on the vexed topic of summer soccer.



RAY GATT

During the past 20 years in which I have been intimately connected with Australian Soccer, I recall many disastrous blunders being made by the code's administrators. Yet, despite this, I just cannot believe that the craziest suggestion of all — the change to a summer season — will ever become fact.

The game's rulers leave much to be desired but I do not think they are completely mad.

In your letter to ASW, you mention a couple of reasons for lending your support to the summer plan. I do not think they stand up to scrutiny.

First, let us look at the greatest problem facing you summer advocates — the heat. I am aware of the NSL's desire to play in the evening and not in the heat of the afternoon. But do you really believe the temperature will conveniently drop, from say 35 celcius, to 20 or 25 when the sun goes down.

Have you never experienced those sort of nights when many people find it quite impossible to sleep because of the heat and humidity? There can never be a guarantee that conditions will be suitable for Soccer merely because a kick-off has been switched from 3pm to 7pm.

Another point you make concerns the likely media coverage which would accompany a change of seasons.

My experience of the whims of sporting editors does not indicate even the remotest hint that they would allocate generous space to Soccer in the summer time.

On the contrary. They would treat it as a joke and would heap scorn on "the mad ethnics playing wog-ball" at a time when all normal, civilised sportsmen are involved in cricket, tennis, surfing, golf, athletics and other more seasonal pursuits.

No, Ray. The fact that one solitary occasion the Sydney Morning Herald carried two Soccer stories on its back page does not impress me as an indication that sporting editors are hungry for Soccer stories in summer.

On my own newspaper, the Sydney Sun, we have carried as many as eight cricket stories in

one edition in summer. This is proof, surely, that Soccer would constantly battle with summer sports for space — even if it is not competing with rugby league and aussie rules.

I've said it before and I'll say it again — summer Soccer would be ideal in England, Scotland, Sweden, Denmark, Poland or the Soviet Union. But, in Australia? We need summer Soccer like a hole in the head.

But, good luck to you with your efforts, Gatty. You are fighting the good fight, albeit in a totally misguided way and with not the remotest possibility of success.

In conclusion, allow me to make one final point.

CHALLENGE?

NOSTALGIA it certainly is, but there are ex-Sydney City supporters who would like to see the club back for a game.

The suggestion is to raise a \$5000 winner's purse and \$3000 for the loser and play a challenge between ex-champions Sydney City and the 1987 lions, APIA-Leichhardt on the week after the grand final.

Which would be the better side? There is good reason to favour either club.

In the event of a draw the suggestion is that the

The summer Soccer scheme was born of desperation. "We have nothing to lose" is the thinking of its advocates, men who will frantically try anything in the hope of increasing match attendances.

Good ideas rarely come from desperate men.



Best wishes,
David Jack.

clubs take a share and donate the rest to a worthy children's charity.

Have a look at the quality ex-Sydney City players who could become available, present clubs willing.

Clint Gosling, Brett Hughes, Ean Rodriguez, Steve O'Connor, Robert Hooker, Jean-Paul de Marigny, Alex Robertson, Tom McCulloch, Gerry Gomez, Grant Lee, David Barrett, Kevin Hagan, Abbas Saad, Sean Ingham. And then there could be John Kosmina, Graeme Fletcher etc!

TOP PLANNING FROM MELBOURNE CROATIA

By JOHN ECONOMOS

MELBOURNE CROATIA is taking drastic steps to launch a serious assault on the NSL championship next year, according to club director and team manager, Steve Drazetic.

The club is out to sign three new players. They have opened up new club rooms at their Sunshine property, have signed the coach for the 1988 season, and improved lighting at their training ground.

An enthusiastic Mr Drazetic said: "Our first step was to re-sign Peter Ollerton as coach, which was an unanimous decision I might add.

"Next, we are on the look out for a top quality target-man to assist Paul Lewis and Ian Wallace.

"We are also seeking a top-class midfielder who can hold the ball up in play.

"As far as our defence is concerned, I feel we have one of the best in the League already.

"The club this year has shown a great improve-

ment in stability and we are aiming to build on this even further.

"We have a good sponsor in Metro Travel worth \$40,000 per season, and this week will be discussing contracts with



PAUL LEWIS.

our NSL squad for next year.

"Ian Wallace is going back to Scotland for the off-season but we hope to have him back next year."

Wallace and Willie Herd were gained by Mel-

bourne Croatia on free transfers.

Herd hails from Scotland's Partick Thistle whilst Wallace arrived via Scotland from the Maritimo club in Portugal.

The progressive Victorian club last week opened new social rooms on their 16 acre property in suburban Sunshine.

With brand new kitchens, bars and an auditorium with a capacity of over 600, Mr Drazetic says the property now has a market valuation of \$1 million.

Most of the construction work on the complex was achieved through voluntary labour and services.

Next step in Melbourne Croatia's plans is to build a grandstand with ultra modern change rooms at their Sunshine training pitch. They will eventually transform the whole complex into a home ground.

The aim is to commence building next year.

The club has applied for a Government grant, plus an interest-free loan from the Council of Sunshine, to finance this ambitious project.

Rochedale Rovers' Reid

FORMER Brisbane Lions NSL striker John Reid has been named the next year's Rochedale Rovers XXXX League team coach in a decision which prompted a walkout by some members at last week's club quarterly meeting.

Reid has been the club's junior director of coaching for the past three years.

He replaces Alan Hughes who took over as player-coach of the team midway through this season when Eddie Spearritt was sacked.

The opposition to Reid's appointment came from a group of supporters who are understood to have been pushing for the experienced Matt Carson, who left Ipswich United after five years this season.

But Rochedale president John Hancock said he had every faith that Reid would do the job well and would ensure a flow of club junior products into the senior ranks.

The appointment of Reid leaves only three XXXX League clubs yet to announce a coach for 1988.

Redlands United, who are believed to have talked to Carson and former Lions coach Col Bennett, also are understood to be negotiating with this season's player-coach Steve Perry and an announcement is expected soon.

Grange Thistle are yet to make an appointment after being surprised by Joe Gilroy's move to second division Inala City, while Olympic United are examining applicants received after a recent advertisement.



FRANK MENGOTTI (pictured above) was a deserving winner of the Australian Soccer Press Association (ASPA), Brisbane branch, player-of-the year award. Mengotti's award was well received by the large gathering.

Mengotti, 24, received his award at the annual Australian Soccer Press Association (Queensland division) awards night at Perry Park last Friday.

The talented fullback was a popular winner after missing out on the Rothman's best and fairest medal by just one point a week earlier. Mengotti received the award after a brilliant season which not only included captaining his team to the XXXX League grand final, but he also scored Queensland's vital equalising goal in the annual interstate clash with NSW in July.

Mengotti's club coach,

Brisbane Croatia



STANDING l to r: Zeljko Bambic (coach), George Caird, John Russell, Mladen Leko, Brett Beves, Tony Bailo, Tomislav Novack, Jakov Beslic (manager). Crouching: Charlie Runje, Damir Ivica, Mark Atmore, Mick Gerritsen, Joe Stipancic, Guido Moltoni, Dean Morgan. Absent: Joe Cairney, Daniel Kastello.

NATIONAL PLAYER PROFILES

NAME: Teri McQueen
NUMBER OF INTERNATIONALS: 1
PLACE OF BIRTH: Brisbane
OCCUPATION: Domestic
PLAYING POSITION: Defender
SOCCER HONOURS: Playing for Australia in 1986 and beating N.Z.
SOCCER HIGHLIGHTS:
MOST ADMIRABLE PLAYERS: Joanne and Kerry Millman.
MOST INFLUENTIAL PERSON ON SOCCER CAREER: Fred Robins.
FAVOURITE FOOD: Chinese.
FAVOURITE MUSIC: Popular.
OTHER SPORTS INTERESTS AND HONOURS: Touch and squash.



MENGOTTI WINS BIG AWARD

QUEENSLAND and Azzurri Brisbane City defender Frank Mengotti is the Queensland Player of the Year.

Juan Cutillas, was announced Queensland Coach of the Year after his resurrecting of the Azzurri club.

After five barren years in the NSL, Cutillas transformed a lowly rated squad into one of the strongest sides in Queensland. Cutillas instilled a morale not seen in an Azzurri side for more than a decade and after a slow start to the season saw them win 15 consecutive matches to finish just a point behind premiers and pre-season hot favourites, Brisbane Lions.

Outstanding Eastern Suburbs youngster Scott Playle, who in August was offered a contract with Glasgow Rangers at the conclusion of a four-week trial with the club, was voted the ASPA (Qld) Rookie of the Year.

Up and coming referee

Tony Slater was named as Referee of the Year.

The inaugural Players' Player of the Year award went to popular Coalstars midfielder Andy Ogden. Ogden was the most favoured choice of nearly 100 players polled for the award.

Queensland premiers and champions Brisbane Lions, gained four players in the ASPA (Qld) Team of the Year. The team announced was: Wayne Evans (Azzurri), Frank Mengotti (Azzurri), Frank Liddell (Lions), Billy Williamson (North Star), Alan Niven (Lions), Andrew Ogden (Coalstars), Russell Stewart (Lions), Cheetha Vosuga (Olympic U), Grant Lightbown (Lions), Mark Brusasco (Coalstars), Kiernan Cooper (Azzurri).

The Reg Erskine memorial award for services to soccer went to hard working Mitchelton

Soccer Club official Andy Thompson, who has been involved in Queensland soccer since 1932.

Other awards made at the function, which was attended by nearly 200 people.

Ian Dalzell and John Hulme were given presentations for their work with state teams while Col Bennett and Steve Perry received ASF silver and bronze medallions respectively to recognise their Australian appearances.

Other awards included the Rocks Resort award to Kieran Cooper for being the leading XXXX League goalscorer with 19 goals, the George Roberts memorial award to Mark Brusasco for being the most outstanding Queensland player in the interstate game and the Courier-Mail best and fairest award to Mengotti.

Cooper open to offers

LEADING Queensland XXXX League goalscorer, Kieran Cooper, of Azzurri Brisbane City, has announced he is open for offers for next season.

And although the Irishman is currently a visa player, he has legitimate claims for permanent residency. His sister is an Australian citizen while his mother and other sister are permanent residents. He has no other family back in Ireland.

"I am told it costs me just a \$200 fee to get my permanent residency. I would have done it, but I can't afford it," said Cooper, who is unemployed.

"I am not turning my back on Brisbane City but I am open to offers."

Cooper, 25, would be an outstanding capture for not only any other Queensland XXXX League Club, but also any NSL side.

He finished with 19 goals in 22 games in the XXXX League this season and was City's leading goalscorer in their latest NSL season. He is a Queensland repre-

sentative and scored the Maroons' winning goal against NSW last year.

Cooper's Irish teammate Martin Nugent also is undecided about next season.

Nugent, a hard-working striker, returns to Ireland this week where he has had two offers from clubs.

But the 25-year-old wants to return to Brisbane and put the ball firmly in Azzurri's court.

"I don't want to commit myself to an Irish club if I am coming back here next season, but it's up to City. The bottom line will be the offer they make," Nugent said.

Azzurri President Sam Pappalardo said his club wanted to retain all this season's squad, but there was a limit to the Club's available finances.

"We will be talking to

everyone. We want them all to stay because with a few more additions we can win the XXXX League and get back into the NSL," Pappalardo said.

While retaining the Irishmen is Azzurri's most immediate task, their biggest worry this off-season could be in keeping coach Juan Cutillas at Spencer Park.

After last week's 1-2 grand final loss to Brisbane Lions, Cutillas said he would not turn his back on Azzurri, but he also would not commit himself for 1988 just yet.

"The life of a professional coach is a short one and he must make as much money as quickly as he can. I will be considering the offer that is best for myself and my family," Cutillas said.

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NSW AWARDS AT APIA

By JOHN ECONOMOS

THE NSW Division of the Australian Soccer Press Association (ASPA) will present its annual awards at a special dinner at the Apia club on Thursday, October 29.

LEMAIR (Australia Pty Ltd), distributors of electrical appliances, will be major sponsors on the night.

The two senior award winners, as well as receiving magnificent sports trophies styled and crafted by Ambassador Trophies of Croydon, Sydney, will each receive a compact bar refrigerator.

The two under 21 award winners, will each receive Ambassador sports trophies, plus a portable combination-stereo radio-cassette valued at \$600.

And what a fight has developed from early voting coming in from members of the electronic and print media.

NEW CAL AT BLACKTOWN

THE New Caledonian national team will be making a special appearance at the Gabbie Stadium, Seven Hills on Sunday October 25 against Blacktown City, with a 4pm kick-off.

New Caledonia are preparing for participation in the South Pacific Games and will be spending 10 days in Australia.

They have been seeking matches in both Canberra and Wollongong as well, Demons publicity officer Bob Brooks advises.

Their party of 25 will be making Valentine Park, Parklea their temporary home.

It could be the final club game for Gary Byrne, who is retiring after a career which included 56 games at Australian level against both full international and club opponents.

— KEITH GILMOUR

St George's former World Cup centre-back Steve O'Connor, has charged out to hit a slender lead in the early voting.

Big Steve however is being pressured for the NSL division award by Apia's Peter Tredinnick and Jean-Paul de Marigny, plus Sydney Olympic's Vicente Estavillo.

Marconi's Robbie Wheatley and Tony Henderson, plus Sydney Croatia's Zarko Odzakovic and Wally Savor have all polled well.

Last year's winner was Sydney Croatia's Graham Arnold.

In the under 21 Division, Sydney Croatia's Mark Jones, St George's Scott Ollerenshaw and Craig Moffitt, plus Olympic's Abbas Saad and Robbie Hooker have pulled in the votes.

ASPA has increased the number of awards this

year from two trophies to a total of four.

Two awards will be for the Player Of The Year — one for the N.S.L. (NSW based) and one for the NSW State League.

The other two will be for the under 21 Player Of The Year in the NSW State League and one from the N.S.L. (NSW based).

Melita Eagles' energetic defender, Ean Rodrigues and Uruguay-Pennith's Aitec Genc have taken an early lead for the senior award in the NSW State League.

Wollongong City's powerful Jeff Ainsworth last week picked up valuable votes to take up much of the slack.

For the under 21 award in the NSW State League, the early leader is Canterbury Marrickville's young striker, Zlatko Abramasic.

He is closely chased by Melita Eagles' Andrew Callanan and Blacktown City's young goalscoring stopper, Kurt Reynolds.

Last year, this award was taken out by Melita striker, Wayne Farnsworth.

Tickets for the ASPA dinner can be booked by phoning John Economos this week on 660 2033.

Cost is \$22:00 each, which includes a three course dinner.

PREDICTIONS

1=HOME WIN 2=AWAY WIN
X=DRAW

POOLS DIVIDENDS

WEEK NO. 115 DATE 10 10- 87

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3RD \$	179.30	5TH \$	8.10
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THE GAME
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AUSTRALIA

THIS WEEKS WINNING MATCH NUMBERS

9	11	12	17
23	30	SUPP.	10

Four minutes later Juventus was back in the lead, Ned Sparkes slipping a neat pass for Serena to score.

A header from Max Bettoncelli kept the visitors in the game, but Juventus regained its two goal lead when the tireless Rinaudo found a gap on the left to leave Ravenjak groping.

A Juventus halftime lead of 4-2 would have, if anything, flattered Croatia, but it was to do better than that thanks to a controversial penalty decision when referee George Sanderson judged that Lino De Angelis had committed a foul tackle just inside the penalty area. Coehlo scored from the spot.

JUVENTUS: T Guarino, Moulis (Cobanov 70th), De Angelis, Buck, E Guarino, Sparkes, Serena, Expósito, Manaan, Portelli, Rinaudo. SOUTH COAST CROATIA: Ravenjak (Broughton 64th), Camino, Greathhead, Mondolo, Skender, Sola, Williams, Glacken, Coehlo, Bettoncelli, Savrano. REFEREE: G Sanderson.

HEARING

FOURTH division LATINO AMERICA has been summoned to appear before the ACT League's management committee following the abandonment of its game with Canberra City on September 26.

ACTSF secretary Lynam Jennings said the committee had taken note of the referee's report which stated that the game had been abandoned in the 31st minute because of "violent conduct among the players, threats and abuse". Canberra City was leading 2-0 at the time.

"In the light of this the committee feels the club should be given the opportunity to state its case," she said.

The hearing will be on October 19.



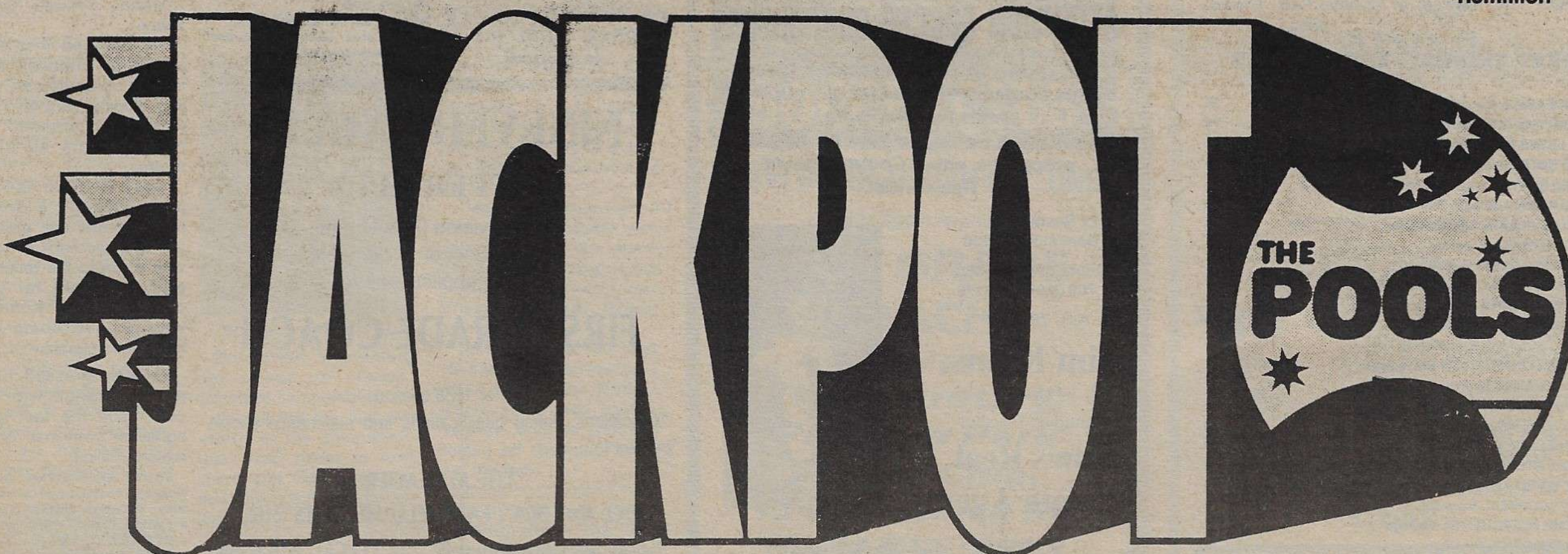
MATCH LIST

WEEK 116

17th OCTOBER, 1987

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	CHARLTON	DERBY C.	1	2
	CHELSEA	COVENTRY	2	1
	LIVERPOOL	Q.P.R.	3	X
	LUTON TOWN	WIMBLEDON	4	X
	MAN. UTD.	NORWICH C.	5	1
	NEWCASTLE	EVERTON	6	X
	NOTTM. F.	SHEFF. WED.	7	1
	OXFORD U.	WEST HAM	8	2
	SOUTH'PTON	WATFORD	9	2
	ASTON VILLA	BOURNEM'TH	10	X
DIVISION 2	BARNLEY	HULL C.	11	1
	BLACKBURN	STOKE C.	12	2
	BRADFORD C.	BIRMINGHAM	13	X
	IPSWICH T.	MAN. CITY	14	X
	MIDDLESBORO'	W.B.A.	15	1
	MILLWALL	SHREWSBURY	16	1
	PLYMOUTH A.	LEEDS U.	17	2
	READING	HUDDERSF'LD	18	2
	SHEFF. UTD.	LEICESTER	19	X
	BLACKPOOL	SUNDERLAND	20	1
DIVISION 3	BRENTFORD	WALSALL	21	2
	BRIGHTON	PRESTON	22	1
	BRISTOL R.	CHESTER	23	2
	DONCASTER	NOTTS. C.	24	X
	GRIMSBY T.	BRISTOL C.	25	X
	MANSFIELD	GILLINGHAM	26	1
	NORTH'PTON	CHESTERF'LD	27	2
	PORT VALE	BURY	28	2
	WIGAN A.	FULHAM	29	1
	YORK	ALDERSHOT	30	X
DIVISION 4	BOLTON W.	CARLISLE	31	X
	CREWE A.	SCARBORO'	32	1
	EXETER	BURNLEY	33	2
	HARTLEPOOL	TORQUAY	34	1
	HEREFORD	SCUNTHORPE	35	2
	LEYTON O.	CAMB'GE U.	36	1
	PETERBORO'	CARDIFF	37	X
	ROCHDALE	DARLINGTON	38	X
* RESERVE MATCHES				
DIV. 4	WOLVES	TRANMERE	39	
	WREXHAM	COLCHESTER	40	
* BEAZER HOMES LG.	BEDWORTH	GOSPORT	41	
	BROMSGROVE	DARTFORD	42	
	BURTON	AYLESBURY	43	
	CHELMSFORD	REDDITCH	44	
SCOTTISH PREMIER	DUNDEE UTD.	ABERDEEN	45	
	DUNFERMLINE	DUNDEE	46	
	FALKIRK	MOTHERWELL	47	
	HIBERNIAN	HEARTS	48	
	MORTON	ST. MIRREN	49	
	RANGERS	CELTIC	50	
	AIRDRIE	MEADOWBANK	51	
SCOTTISH DIVISION 1	CLYDEBANK	CLYDE	52	
	FORFAR	DUMBARTON	53	
	PARTICK	HAMILTON	54	
	Q. OF S'TH.	EAST FIFE	55	

* FORMERLY SOUTHERN LEAGUES



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HEIDELBERG RELEGATED

HEIDELBERG'S courageous 1-1 draw with St George at the St George Stadium was not enough to save them from the indignation of relegation.

Heidelberg, in the first half, looked as though they were going to work a miracle and escape the 'Big Drop'.

Heidelberg's reliable left back, Steve Marley, rocked St George's right post when his 30 metre screaming drive in the 21st minute, crashed onto the woodwork.

After a strong opening they went ahead in the 35th minute when right midfielder John Kanesoulis opened the "innings" with a 12 metre

angled drive into the bottom left hand corner of the net.

The 60th minute saw Saints "balance the books" when striker Scott Ollerenshaw busted down the right and crossed into the six yard box for Peter Petkovski to equalise.

Gloom flooded the cathedral-silent Heidelberg dressing room after the match where coach, John Margaritis lamented: "We fought all

season to no avail and it is strange that our club was hit by four penalties over three of our last four games.

"We don't deserve relegation."

Australia's and Heidelberg's World Cup goalkeeper, Jeff Oliver, said: "Just like when we hit the post in the first half, it sums up what has happened to Heidelberg all season. No luck."

St George coach, Frank Arok, offered: "Heidelberg's results do not reflect the quality of their team."

ST GEORGE: Gibson: Green, O'Shea, O'Connor, Grbevlak, Ricoy, Koczka, Pottler, Ollerenshaw (Fletcher 75th), Hagan (Ilic 63rd), Petkovski. HEIDELBERG: Oliver: McKie, Hunter, Katsakidis, Marley: Kanesoulis, Lucchesi, Selemidis, Valentine: Tsolakis, McKenna. Yellow Cards: Marley. Crowd: 4,143.

JOHN ECONOMOS

Farina grabs three as...

MARCONI SMASH AND GRAB

By FRANK COLETTA

MARCONI waited until the final round to produce the kind of form that all had expected of them throughout the 1987 campaign, as they humiliated neighbouring Sydney Croatia 5-0 at Edensor Park.

It was a ruthless display from a side that many expected to be challenging for the title rather than relying on this match to qualify for the final five.

Skipper Tony Henderson sounded out a firm warning to the remaining clubs in the showdown for the finals crown when he said: "I reckon there will be a few of them shaking in their boots tonight."

"This is the first time we have fielded the same team for consecutive weeks. This factor hasn't been recognised and neither has this side."

Henderson may well have struck the nail on the head. Coach Roberto Vieri has made it clear that his preparations for a run at the championship were always baulked with a non-existent midfield.

Says Vieri: "This year I have been unable to put

the team I want on the field. Injuries nearly beat us. But this team is the one I want to use and it showed just how good it can play against Croatia. That was Soccer!"

Marconi's supremacy was evident after just four minutes when Tommy McCulloch's free-kick from the left was headed in by Gerardo Gomez.

McCulloch's inch-perfect crossing and passing proved the foundations on which victory was built. That, and Frank Farina's deadly finishing.

Despite Farina not being everyone's favourite goalscorer, he did finish topscorer in the National League and in turn finished with a hat-trick that buried Croatia.

His first was a beauty — set up by David Lowe, who was in fine form and revelled in his move back to the front-line.

The little man squeezed his pass in behind the panicky Croatia defence and Farina, as elusive as ever, zipped in behind Vedran Rozic to ram the ball in.

"Everything came off," exclaimed Farina.



Frank Farina

Farina was on fire and he scored from another header from another McCulloch free-kick in the 27th minute.

Craig Mason proved his usual forceful self — the Fairfielders have sorely missed his menace in midfield.

Marconi wasted no time after the interval getting back into stride and the effervescent Geoff Gunning beat Rozic to a cross from the right, sent over by, you guessed it — McCulloch, after he and Lowe had worked a quick short corner.

Farina fashioned the finish eight minutes from fulltime with a superb running header, this time from the pin-point accuracy of a Lowe centred ball.

Rozic was typically matter-of-fact after the stunning loss. "I think we deserved a goal or two, but this was probably our worst effort this year. We were very poor when it came to defending free-kicks and corners."

MARCONI: Catlin, Wheatley, Henderson, Calderan (Rizzotto 84), Gomez, Mason, Gray, Lowe, McCulloch, Gunning (Nastevski 71), Farina.

SYDNEY CROATIA: Woodhouse, Rezo (Clich 46), Jennings, Rozic, Savor, Jones, Rumora, Slater, Odzakov, Arnold (Krslovic 57), Lamond.

CROWD: 7286. Referee: Jim Reeves (Newcastle). Yellow Cards: Geoff Gunning and Tony Henderson (Marconi).

Hope then despair for South

By GREG BLAKE

THERE was an unmistakable air of hope and anticipation on the terraces of Middle Park last Sunday.

For about 45 minutes the gloom and doom of 1987 was completely washed away as the South Melbourne faithful hoped and prayed for a miracle.

"Surely", said the punters. "Sydney Croatia will knock off Marconi and put us into the top five."

And for their part the South Melbourne Hellas players raised their game to befit the occasion and tore visiting Sydney Olympic to pieces in the first 35 minutes.

Hellas took a 2-1 lead in at halftime and had looked as convincing as they have done for many weeks.

But as the players trooped back onto the park after the break they must have been demoralised beyond hope as the news came through.

"Progress scores", boomed the loudspeakers, "Marconi 3, Sydney Croatia 0".

Hellas players and fans alike knew the dream was over from that very moment and that the Sydney bogey which has plagued Melbourne all season had struck again.

Just to add insult to injury Sydney Olympic (yet another NSW outfit) showed some of the character and courage that coach Eddie Thomson has cried out for by coming back to steal a point.

The cruel blow to make it 2-2 came a full minute and 45 seconds into second half injury time to show that all the luck had deserted the Middle Park giants yet again.

Yet Hellas had made a dream start as they pressed and hustled Olympic into making mistakes.

The break came in the 12th minute when Tony Dakos shoved Danny Wright in the box and referee Don Campbell awarded a penalty which Danny Crainie tucked away.

He bettered that effort just four minutes later with a spectacular, curling dipping gem of a free kick which crashed into the net from all of 25 metres.

Gary Phillips, far and away Olympic's driving force made the goal to put Olympic back in touch with a run to the touchline and a perfect far post cross to John Kosmina who nodded home with his usual aplomb.

Olympic pressed home the advantage with the end result the last gasp equaliser from man of the match Phillips.

SOUTH MELBOURNE: Galatas, Russell, Postecoglou, Anezakis, Blair, McDowell, Halford (Tassios 21) Wright, Crainie, Wade, Egan.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Meier, Hooker, Hantzis, Dakos, Phillips, Dragicevic, Kosmina, Patalis (Lardas 76) Estavillo, Hanlotis (Jee 80) Spanoudakis.

Referee: Don Campbell. Crowd: around 3,000.

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WEST END NAT. LEAGUE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
APIA-L'Hardt.....	24	13	9	2	39	21	35
Preston.....	24	11	7	6	32	22	29
St. George.....	24	12	5	7	31	24	29
Marconi.....	24	11	5	8	41	25	27
Sydney Croatia.....	24	10	6	8	31	25	26
Sth Melbourne.....	24	9	7	8	32	34	25
Syd. Olympic.....	24	7	9	8	29	32	23
Brunswick.....	24	9	5	10	18	23	23
Mel. Croatia.....	24	9	5	10	22	30	23
Adelaide City.....	24	6	10	8	29	23	22
Footscray.....	24	7	8	9	17	27	22
Sunshine.....	24	3	9	12	26	42	15
Heidelberg.....	24	3	7	14	25	44	13

WEST END NAT. LEAGUE RESULTS

ST GEORGE 1 (P Petovski) HEIDELBERG 1 (J Kanesoulis) at St George Stadium. Crowd: 4143.

FOOTSCRAY 2 (T Karic E Tapai) ADELAIDE CITY 2 (J Mullen C Villani) at Schintler Reserve. Crowd: 1200.

SOUTH MELBOURNE 2 (D Crainie 2) SYDNEY OLYMPIC 2 (J Kosmina G Phillips) at Middle Park. Crowd: 1500.

SUNSHINE 2 (R Markovac G Clark) PRESTON 0 at Connor Reserve. Crowd: 3000.

MARCONI 5 (F Farina 3 G Gomez G Gunning) SYDNEY CROATIA 0 at Croatian Sports Centre. Crowd: 7286.

BRUNSWICK 1 (J Yzendoorn) APIA LEICHHARDT 1 (C Yankos) at Olympic Park. Crowd: 875.

WEST END NAT. TOPSCORERS

FRANK FARINA Marconi	16
ROD BROWN APIA-Leichhardt	14
PAUL LEWIS Melbourne Croatia	11
STEVE SMITH Preston	10
ROBBIE SLATER Sydney Croatia	9
JOE MULLEN Adelaide City	9
CHARLIE VILLANI Adelaide City	9
RON CAMPBELL Preston	8
JOHN MARKOVSKI Sunshine	8
GRAHAM ARNOLD Sydney Croatia	7
LAWRIE MCKINNA Heidelberg	7
PAUL WADE South Melbourne	7
PETER TSOLAKIS Heidelberg	7
SCOTT OLLERENSHAW St George	7
JOHN KOSMINA Sydney Olympic	7
ZARKO ODZAKOV Syd Croatia	6
MARK JONES Syd Croatia	6
IAN WALLACE Melbourne Croatia	6
STUART STEVENSON South Melb.	6
GARY WARD APIA-Leichhardt	6
STEVE MAXWELL Marconi	5
GRAEME FLETCHER St. George	5
GOCE DIMOVSKI Preston	5
KEVIN HAGAN St George	5
GERRY GOMEZ Marconi	5
GEOFF GUNNING Marconi	5

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CHARLIE YANKOS goes up against Brunswick's ANDREW ZINNI. Pic — Les Shorrocks.

NINEVEH EAGLES

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BRUNSWICK CLOSE TO BIG UPSET

BY LES SHORROCK

BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS and **Apia-Leichhardt** fought out an eventful 1-1 draw at Olympic Park on Sunday, which unfortunately was seen by only 875 dedicated fans.

What a pity, I was forced to think, that so many stayed away, because they missed a treat.

There was so much action that a fair score-line would have been something like 5-2 in Juve's favour.

Juventus, with the wind behind it, started off like a house afire and soon had the champion back-peddalling. Arno Bertogna was organising desperately, and Apia was looking ragged.

Juventus in one period forced three successive corners, but couldn't get the ball past the superb Tony Pezzano in the Apia goal.

One of Pezzano's saves Peter Shilton himself would have been proud of...a super reflex stop from point-blank range that wouldn't have counted anyway, through offside.

Eventually the pressure paid off and John Yzendoorn headed past Pezzano following yet another corner.

Apia's attack couldn't do much to relieve the pressure, although Gary Ward drove a hard volley just over and Hilton Phillips hit big Pat Marama full in the chest with a cannonball that threatened to break a rib.

Apia came out full of purpose for the second term, as if to demonstrate that champions don't wilt under pressure. Bertogna hit the post with Marama well beaten, and eventually, at the 65 minute mark, Charlie Yankos levelled as Gary Ward cleverly headed on a near-post corner.

Then it was on for young and old, and the match took on the aspect of a cup-tie rather than the last hurrah of a dying season.

Juventus threw everything at Pezzano, but he defied them acrobatically to the last.

There was a sad postscript to the game.

John Yzendoorn announced his retirement for good on doctor's orders. It appears that the injury he carried in his last year at South Melbourne has left a legacy of arthritis in his left ankle.

He has been told that to further aggravate it could result in his being a cripple by the age of 40.

He will be a big loss to the game too, because he says he has no intention of becoming a coach.

BRUNSWICK: Marama, Lewis, Yzendoorn, Brown, Incantalupo, Palatsidis, Durakovic, Patterson (Bell 36th) Cullen, McGrellis, Zinni.

APIA-LEICHHARDT: Pezzano, de Marigny, Yankos, Bertogna, M. Brown, Tredinnick, R. Brown, Lorens (Parison 40m), Phillips, Ward, Katholos.



A superb shot of APIA goalkeeper TONY PEZZANO defying the law of gravity by ASW's own shutterbug — Les Shorrock. Surrounding the flying custo-

dian are from left to right: Peter Tredinnick, Joe Palatsidis, Andrew Zinni and the retiring John Yzendoorn.

Houdini would be proud OF SUNSHINE'S ESCAPE ACT

SUNSHINE pulled off one of the great Houdini-type escape acts of recent times when they avoided the relegation chop to the Victorian State League next season.

Needing a win to stay in next year's National League competition, Sunshine turned on one of their bravest performances to beat the high-flying Preston 2-0 in their final round match at the Connor Reserve.

With luckless Heidelberg only managing a 1-1 draw with St George in Sydney, it means that the Greek-oriented club — a foundation member of the national competition — will be relegated to the State League.



ROBERT MARKOVAC

But, while Heidelberg has cause for misery, Sunshine can celebrate.

For all but the last two weeks of the competition they had been in last place and many had tipped them certain to be relegated.

Amazingly, Sunshine's win over Preston, who have been the form team of the League over the last two months, was achieved without their two young stars John

Markovski and Paul Trimboli, who are in Chile with the Young Socceroos.

Scottish import Gary Clark, who came into the side as one of the replacements, played a big part in saving George Cross, as he scored the second goal on Sunday.

The match turned fiery in the second half when Preston midfielder Zoran Tasevski was sent off after a challenge on the Sunshine goalkeeper, Sean Keogh.

As Tasevski was walking off the field, Preston's Goce Dimovski slumped to the ground and referee Gary Power sent off Sunshine's Roger Bain on the advice of the linesman.

Despite its recent good form, Preston rarely was able to muster the same fierce commitment as Sunshine blocked out Preston striker Steve Smith.

Sunshine took the lead 15 minutes after half-time when midfielder Robert Markovac twisted past a defender and his shot deflected off George Petrov into the net.

Clark increased the lead six minutes later, running down the left flank before cutting inside and darting past Piculovski inside the penalty area and driving a low angled shot into the net.

TOM PETERS

FANS GET VALUE FOR MONEY

By JOHN MANGAN

FOUR goals in 17 minutes gave fans their money's worth at Schintler Reserve on Sunday as Footscray and Adelaide City fought out a 2-2 draw.

Technically the season was already over for both clubs before the game began — both were well clear of the relegation zone but not quite challenging for the top five.

Fears that the sides would simply go through the motions were quickly allayed as both teams pushed forward.

Footscray looked much the more composed as the second half began and their efforts were rewarded in the 60th minute when the ball fell outside the area to Tom Karic, who blasted the ground-hugging shot from 20

metres into the back of the net.

Kenny Murphy was running hot in midfield and played a hand in Footscray's second goal when he knocked the ball into the area to Spink in the 68th minute.

Spink's close-range shot was brilliantly blocked by Adelaide keeper, Willie McNally, but he could not hold the ball and Ernie Tapai streaked in to nudge the loose ball over the line.

Footscray coach Drago Sekularac may well be forgiven for thinking the game was over, but his

substitution of defender Tyrone James proved costly as Adelaide staged a comeback.

In the 73rd minute Paul Shillabeer centred from the right wing to Mullen whose first time volley gave Nikitovic no chance.

Barely four minutes later fullback Alex Tobin swung a cross from the left into the penalty area to Shillabeer at the far post who nodded it back across goal for Charlie Villani to tap into the net.

Footscray made every

effort to regain the lead with Spink shooting into the side netting and Murphy going close with a shot from the edge of the area, but at the final whistle both sides could be content with a share of the spoils.

FOOTSCRAY: Nikitovic, James (Lazopoulos 69th), Zkaric, van Egmond (Barjaktarevic 74th), Tapai, Dimitrijevic, Murphy, Bozinovski, Campbell, Spink, Deankovic.

ADELAIDE CITY: McNally, Shillabeer, Tobin, Nyskohus, Melita, Santrac, Villani, J Mullen, Vidmar, Miller, Vatsalis.

Referee: Arthur Owens. Crowd: 1200.

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THE VICTORIAN ROTHMANS MEDAL

PAUL HARRIS of Caulfield City won what was probably the last Victorian Rothmans Medal in a cliffhanger finish last Friday night.

As the last vote came out, three players, Box Hill's Dean Hennessey, Morwell Falcons' Effie Cassar and Harris were all level on 34, and the Caulfield committeemen jumped in delight as Harris's name came up for the last vital three votes.

The Victorian Government's shock decision last week to ban cigarette companies from sponsoring sporting events probably spells the end of Rothmans' involvement with Victorian Soccer, but no doubt some other approved company will step into the breach.

THE TOP VOTES

37: P.Harris, 34: D.Hennessey, E.Cassar, 23: B.Culina, 21: E.Bruns, 19: L.Carter, A.Patinotis, A.Dick, 17: S.Beech, G.Watson, J.Williams, 16: A.Livingstone, P.Thurlow, R.Nelson, 15: I.Tuffield, T.Cumming, K.Drakeford, 13: J.O'Callaghan, D.Morovic, D.Tuck, W.Hamill, 12: B.Burton, J.Vizzini, P.Bordignon, J.Wycislik, P.Czapnik, K.Storm, R.Krajacic, B.Coyle.



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VICTORIA's night of nights brings out the best of them. Here in yet another revealing Les Shorrock photograph, previous medal winner Pat Bannon (left) remonstrates with the ABC's sports commentator Drew Morphet. Obviously one of those many famous stories that evolved during an eventful career, eh Pat?



A proud Paul Harris displays the medal around his neck.



Green Gully Under 14 championship winners and runners-up the Juniors Cup.
Def: by Brunswick Juventus 4-2.

BACK ROW: Team Manager: Joe Ghirxi, D. Borg, O. Trajceviski, T. Latontanski, R. Veljanouski, R. Gonzotez, B. Dimitrovski. Team coach: Brian Kerr.
FRONT ROW: S. Ghirxi, D. Rios, T. Necesi, J. Spiteri, J. Kostodinovski, Z. Bogdonovski. Absent: S. Tscherepko.

PRESTON MAKEDONIA YOUTH 1987



STANDING L to R: Kito Grozdanovski (coach); Veselin Soklevski; Michael/Brian (Branov) Zoran Janakievski; Tom Djorgovski; Velcme Kondinski; Stuart Lee; George Slifkas; Tom Talevski; Lube Lulevski (team manager). **KNEELING L to R:** Nick Naumovski; Chris Foudoulis; David Kostidis; Goran Kojdovski; Borce Momirovski; Zlatko Volkanovski. **ABSENT:** George Jolevski; Robert Ugunovski; Robert Drogovski.



Paul Harris (left) in congratulated by Victorian Soccer Federation President Jack Reilly.

HAT-TRICK TO MEKO

Meko Holdings set a new record in taking out its third successive Black Douglas Cup. It had shared the previous record of back to back Cups first set by Tarax in 1978-79.

Coupled with the fact that Meko has also won the League Championship for 1986 and 1987, this result capped an impressive three years of success for the Builders.

In the Cup final for the first time, Glenroy Doka seemed overawed by the occasion and started very slowly.

Its players seemed leaden footed on the unfamiliar synthetic surface of Olympic Park No 2.

Nevertheless it was a surprise when they surrendered the first goal at the 17 minute mark. Their goalkeeper allowed the ball to run through his hands and on to his chest from where it bounced quietly into the net.

Seven minutes later Billy Popovski made it 2-0 for Meko when he neatly chipped the advancing keeper.

A melee in the 37th minute saw a Meko shot hit the post, the headed rebound strike the crossbar, the shot from that rebound bounce off the legs of a defender, and the ball finally fell at the feet of Popovski, who made no mistake in tucking

away his second goal and Meko's third.

In a rare forward move, Tony Pug broke free from just outside the area, swerved around his marker, and hammered the ball past Meko's keeper. Suddenly Doka had come alive. Its players picked up a yard of pace. For the next few minutes it was all Doka.

After the break Doka's efforts were finally rewarded when a sweeping cross found Mario Calleja some 20 metres out. In the goal of the match he rifled into the net.

It was now that Meko pulled everyone back into defence. For the last quarter-hour the game was played almost entirely in the Meko half, but despite everything it could do, Doka could not manage the vital third goal.

Beaten finalists last year, Altona Ilinden made no mistake in this year's Invitation Cup final, defeating the high-flying Highpoint Reserves 2-1.

The co-operation and support of the Olympic Park Committee of Management and its caterers (O'Brien Catering) were as usual top-notch, but the synthetic surface was new to all four teams engaged in the day's matches. Players found it hard to adjust to the bounce of the ball but generally appreciated the evenness and predictability of the pitch.

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THE WALLACE VIEWPOINT

STRENGTHENING the overall standard of Soccer in Victoria by amalgamation - thus causing the social teams to disappear and be replaced by a more professional outfit - this is the major priority of the Victorian Soccer Federation, says Executive Director George Wallace.

THE VSF EXECUTIVE TALKS TO ASW'S VLADO VLAHOVIC

By 1989 all leagues must only have twelve teams, so that amalgamation is preferred by clubs to extinction. Administrators like president Jack Reilly and secretary George Wallace believe the game will benefit as a whole.

Not only will social teams disappear but good players in lower league teams - simply playing there because the money is as good as they

stimulates the standard of play.

Just like in economic policy where competition improves the market place, in Soccer a better level of competition stimulates more supporter interest and thus benefiting the game overall.

George Wallace says: "A better standard is what the supporters want. The recent Everton/Australia clash testifies to this. A professional outfit like Everton attracted the spectators in droves."

He is disappointing that at junior level Australia is so successful and somewhat to the contrary at

"The gap should be bridged, because our young talent is going to waste," says Wallace.

This is where amalgamation is looked upon as the first main step to reducing the gap.

Population spread among migrants is part to blame in the decreasing of the overall standard.

Small migrant communities have popped up all over Melbourne in widespread sections of the city.

These communities get 12 players together and form a club, so in effect the community get behind the club and stop attending the major club that represents their nationality. Brunswick Juventus, South Melbourne Hellas and Heidelberg will testify to this.

Amalgamation is seen as the remedy for this

Turning attention to the State League, fixture congestion must be blamed for the dismal turnout at the State League Cup semi-finals on the Wednesday night, Wallace believes.

A mid-week working night is always undesirable, but there was no other way because of the Dockerty Cup had to be squeezed into the calendar as well.

Wallace considers the State League is a good standard however, and that the relegation of Heidelberg and George Cross from the NSL will further strengthen the competition next season.

"There seems to be no problems financially, but the crowds were disappointing overall in 1987 in the State League.

"Crowds want to see good football and that's where amalgamation will assist," said Wallace.

Wallace believes the Australian Institute of Sport experiment was a terrific success because the youngsters played fine soccer and actually lifted the standard of the league. They will sorely be missed.

Unfortunately, they will not be back next season because the costs are too high for the Institute, who have a tight budget.

They are desperately trying to win acceptance into the N.S.W. State Bank League, which will mean only a comparatively short bus drive away from home.

On the topic of referees, Wallace believes here in Victoria there are the best in the country because of the system used in training them. Referees are a better quality and convey more authority on the park.

Wallace said: "Referees are used as scapegoats because whatever goes wrong, clubs and supporters are first to blame the referees when it's probably not their fault."

Finally there was the topic of Fawcner wanting to represent Victoria in the play-offs for entry to the NSL, and not being allowed to do so.

Wallace explained: "The A.S.F. ruled that only the 'champion' team from each State may be represented in the play-offs, leaving the V.S.F. no choice. It was outranked by the A.S.F. ruling." And that was even if it went Fawcner to enter.

Wallace suggested Heidelberg or George Cross, whichever is relegated, should represent Victoria in the play-offs.

This was also refused, leaving Brisbane Lions and Adelaide Hellas to fight for promotion.

“The gap should be bridged, because our young talent is going to waste” — George Wallace.



VICTORIAN SOCCER FEDERATION Executive Director — George Wallace, hard at work in his Melbourne office



AUSTRALIA v EVERTON. Oscar Crino (left) beats Everton's Peter Reid to the ball during the Olympic Park clash earlier this year. This is the standard that should be given to the public says George Wallace

would receive anywhere else - will increase in standard each week, playing against a more competitive side.

The benefit of this is obvious. More good players on the park competing against each other

senior level. The U16 Socceroos are ranked second in the world and at Youth level are ranked a very respectable thirteenth.

At senior level our ranking is much further down the list.

problem. Fixture congestion is also part of the reason why the V.S.F. want less teams. Wallace believe the long seasons and early commencements don't give clubs enough time to plan for progress.

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GRAND FINALS ARE THE AUSSIE WAY OF LIFE

By JOHNNY WARREN

SOMETIMES I just sit back stunned with the way we carry on in Australian Soccer.

The latest episode concerns the final five play-offs, the Beach Fashions Cup and the first past the post "championship".

With APIA spoiling everyone's fun by racing away with the minor premiership almost two months ago, here we all are telling the world and, more importantly, our ever decreasing number of paying spectators that the season is over.

APIA are the champions — the rest is insignificant. The rest is academic, let's wrap it all up till next year.

If that had come from the growing number of anti-Soccer (football) media, fair enough.

But sadly we are the ones starting that type of thinking and our clubs, which spend so much to keep the whole show on the road, are the ones to pay the penalty.

It is ironic that Australian Soccer's two crowd pulling, financially viable, pre and post season competitions are the ones we downgrade the most.

Ampol, our longest and largest backer, abandoned Soccer this year for the way clubs treated the Ampol Cup pre-season tournament.

I suggest similar backers of the other events will follow suit in the National Cup and the final five if we continue to ignore the significance of these events.

APIA won the championship, league, minor premiership or whatever, and good luck to them.

It has been a long time between drinks for the Leichhardt outfit and few can begrudge them their moment of deserved glory.

But the League is only part of the season.

Sydney Croatia took out the pre-season State Bank Cup, Melbourne Croatia winning the similar pre-season Buffalo Cup tournament in Melbourne and beating their Sydney brothers in the national play-offs.

Sydney Croatia, again, and South Melbourne are through to the Beach Fashions final played over two legs and kicking off tonight in Sydney at St George Stadium, with the return leg in Melbourne at Olympic Park next Sunday.

probably the highlight of the year on our club scene.

There we have run-away first past the post APIA along with Preston, which has hardly put a foot wrong since Ernie Merrick took over the coaching duties.

our club Soccer.

As a player we always aimed at winning the lot.

It was important to win the pre-season Cup, it was important to win the State or National Cup and it was important to win the first past the post minor premiership, as it was called in those days.

But none of the above had the same thrill as winning the grand final.

Going through the years NSW and later Australia has had some tremendous grand finals — games which linger in the memory long after the week to week championship matches are forgotten.

I can recall all grand finals — I have little idea who was first past the post.

In 1957, the first year of the NSW Federation, it was Len Quested's Auburn beating Uncle Joe



NSW Grand Final 1972. Marconi-Fairfield v St. George Budapest. Opposing captains Ray Richards and Johnny Warren exchange pleasantries before the kick-off at the Sydney Sports Ground.

Both teams deserve to be in the final, both have recorded some splendid victories on their path to the final.

On to the final five and whether we like it or not we all live in Australia and irrespective of what they do in Rio, Belgrade, London or Madrid, grand final day is Australian.

It is the Australian way of finishing a season whether that be, rugby league, rugby union, Australian Rules, cricket, baseball or whatever.

It is a great sporting tradition which crowns the champion side of the year giving the participating clubs some much needed gate monies in the process.

Again I do not wish to take anything away from APIA but grand final day is THE day in all Australian sport.

It is a shame so much has been said by us all to denigrate this year's top five as it is shaping as

Add in Saints, the team we all predicted would be close to relegation, and on-the-mend Sydney Croatia, and you have the ingredients of a first class top five series.

To be included at the time of writing is either Marconi or South Melbourne.

Despite the absence of Sydney Olympic, I will be surprised if crowds are not larger than for normal West End National Soccer League fixtures.

Last year Adelaide City were national champions.

Answering quickly there are few keen fans who can say off the top of their head which teams were the various minor premiers.

Over the years the same has been the case simply because it is the Australian way.

The sooner we start thinking in Australian terms the quicker we may be able to get some Australians along to watch



National Grand Final 1984. South Melbourne Hellas v Sydney Olympic. Rough and tumble in the second leg match at St. George Stadium. The seven players involved are John Yzendoorn (white shirt), Marshall Soper, Alan Davidson, Mark Kousas (back to camera), Peter Laumets (on ground), Bobby Russell (no.3 partly obscured) and the legs of Nick Theodorakopoulos on the ground.

We need the excitement



National Grand Final 1986 — Adelaide City Juventus v Sydney Olympic at the Parramatta Stadium. City's sweeper and captain BUGSY NYSKOHOUS (third from right) goes up against Olympic's ANDY STANKOVIC, supported by CHARLIE VILLANI (socks down). Picture Michael Sara.

Vlasits' Canterbury.

The roles were reversed in 1958.

A year later, 1959, the great Prague side beat APIA before a full house at Henson Park.

Henson Park was again the venue of the 1960 grand final — again a full house with the young Canterbury Babes, again under Uncle Joe and led by Leo Baumgartner on the field, causing the upset of the century

beating the unbeatable Prague 5-2.

Other memorable grand finals in the NSW State League era include the time they closed the gates an hour before kick-off at the Sydney Sports ground to see South Coast beat APIA 4-0, or in 1964 when John Watkiss scored five goals to help APIA wallop Saints 7-2.

Saints reversed the role in 1967 thanks, among other things, to a David Cliss hat-trick and won 5-2.

It was APIA and Saints again in 1969 — a draw meant a replay notable for Ernie Campbell scoring a hat-trick in the last nine minutes to enable APIA to come from 0-2 down and win sensationally 3-2.

In 1970 — Yugal 4 St George 0, another great upset especially as Saints won the week before 4-0, 1974 Saints 4 Hakoah 2 in extra time

and Hakoah goalkeeper Martin Coe voted man of the match.

Then to the National League and again it has been grand finals that stay in the memory. Fitting finishes to a season.

In 1978, Hakoah 4 Marconi 2, 1980 when Heidelberg thrashed favourites Sydney City 4-0 at Bruce Stadium, Canberra.

South Melbourne's two legged win over Sydney Olympic in 1984 and of course Adelaide City's emotional win over Sydney Olympic last year.

In saying the above I feel we have a tremendous final five play-off series on our hands.

Instead of telling the public about it we are almost apologetic about staging it.

Grand finals are AUSTRALIAN and for that reason alone are worth elevating to the status they deserve.

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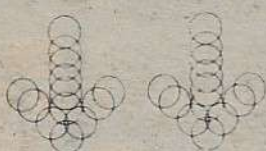
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TOP FIVE SERIES

PRESTON SEEK REVENGE



STEVE GOJEVIC
Preston Makedonia

Preston's costliest ever signing at \$23,000 at the start of the season. Gojevic starred at junior level for Victoria and forged his way into Melbourne Croatia's senior side as a 14 year old in 1981. Played 45 State League games for the club and helped it to promotion in the NSL in 83. Was promoted to captain as the club won the Buffalo Cup and the Ansett Challenge Shield in 1985. Creative midfielder who has been in Frank Arok's Melbourne training squad on several occasions. At Preston Makedonia he was used initially as a stopgap striker before reverting to his favoured midfield spot.

Born: 27 July 1965. **NSL debut:** Brunswick Juve 2 Melb Croatia 1, 4 March 1984.

NSL career details:
Melbourne Croatia.

1984: 29 apps. + 1 sub. 8 goals

1985: 19 apps. + 1 sub. 2 goals

1986: 14 apps. + 2 sub. 1 goal

Debut for Preston Makedonia: v Footscray (a) D0-0

29 March 1987.

PRESTON will be flat out to reverse the tables against St George on Sunday when the two sides meet in the first match of the "Top Five Series" at the St George Stadium.

This preliminary semi-final was earlier re-scheduled to today week, and would have been played in Melbourne.

With the second leg of the Beach Fashions Cup Final to be played on Sunday in Melbourne, Sydney was left without a match.

The League quickly moved to bring forward the St George-Preston duel to fill the vacuum.

These teams last met in Sydney in August, with the Saints running out 3-0 winners.

The loss to St George, had brought to an abrupt halt a string of eight matches that Preston had gone undefeated, since young coach Ernie Merrick had taken over the side.

But make no mistake, this will be an entirely different game.

When the two last met Preston came to Sydney without ace-striker Steve Smith, and the Victorians' attack had no teeth.

With Smith back in action over the last few weeks to link-up with fellow front man Goce Dimovski, Preston will be a different proposition.

This time St George will be without a key member of the side, with central midfielder Craig Moffitt in Chile with the Youth team.

But balancing out, Preston will be without midfielder, Zoran Tasevski who was giving his marching orders last Sunday when his side was unexpectedly torpedoed by 'Houdini' side, Sunshine George Cross.

Preston's evergreen midfielder Zoran Ilioski, now a left-back, will prove to be a dangerous opponent for St George.

Ilioski's skills and vision from that back left pocket have launched many a dangerous Preston attacks.

Normal left-back and skipper of Preston, Con Opasinis, has switched across to the right side in an experiment that has earned Preston handsome dividends.

Speaking about the team's great revival over the last four months, Opasinis stated: "Our coach has a hell of a lot to do with it. We have no star players but we are a star team. The team spirit has been the best since I've been at the club."

Five of the St George players need just one more yellow card to attract an automatic one match suspension.

St George's giant sweeper, former World Cup stopper Steve O'Connor, playing the best Soccer of his career, will be looked heavily upon to pull Saints out of the fire.

O'Connor said last night: "We will have our hands full as Preston are the most improved side in the League. Their loss last Sunday was most unexpected and surprised everyone".

JOHN ECONOMOS



ANDY KOCZKA
St George

Started out the season as the Saints' main striker but after being sidelined with an injury through April, came back to settle into a role just behind the front runners. Has played in most outfield positions but surprisingly has declared that his favourite position is leftback. Sydney born of Hungarian parents, he played rugby league at school and was torn between the two sports. Played for the Young Socceroos in the World Youth Championship in USSR in 1985. Broke into St George's senior side in the club's NSL championship winning 1983 season.

Born: 9 September 1965.

NSL debut: St George 1 Newcastle 0 (as sub), 13 March 1983.

NSL career details:
St George.

1983: 3 apps. + 1 sub.

1984: 27 apps. + 1 sub. 6 goals

1985: 17 apps. + 2 sub. 3 goals

1986: 16 apps. + 3 sub. 8 goals

WEST-END NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE



"Top Five Series"

Sunday October 18

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liance of Ray Gatt, Eddie Thomson and Peter Wilkins! A sight not to be missed. 12.45pm curtain raiser to the big semi-final clash.

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- 6 SHANE CLINCH
- 7 ROBBIE SLATER
- 8 WALLY SAVOR
- 9 GRAHAM ARNOLD
- 10 TONY KRSLOVIC
- 11 ZARKO ODZAKOV
- 14 ANTE RUMORA
- 15 MANIS LAMOND



- 1 CON GIATAS
- 2 BOBBY RUSSELL
- 3 ANGIE POSTECOGLOU
- 4 GARY McDOWALL
- 5 STEVE BLAIR
- 6 PAUL WADE
- 7 DANNY CRAINIE
- 9 CHARLIE EGAN
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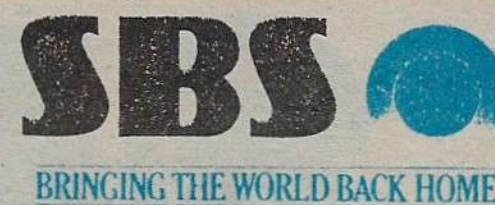
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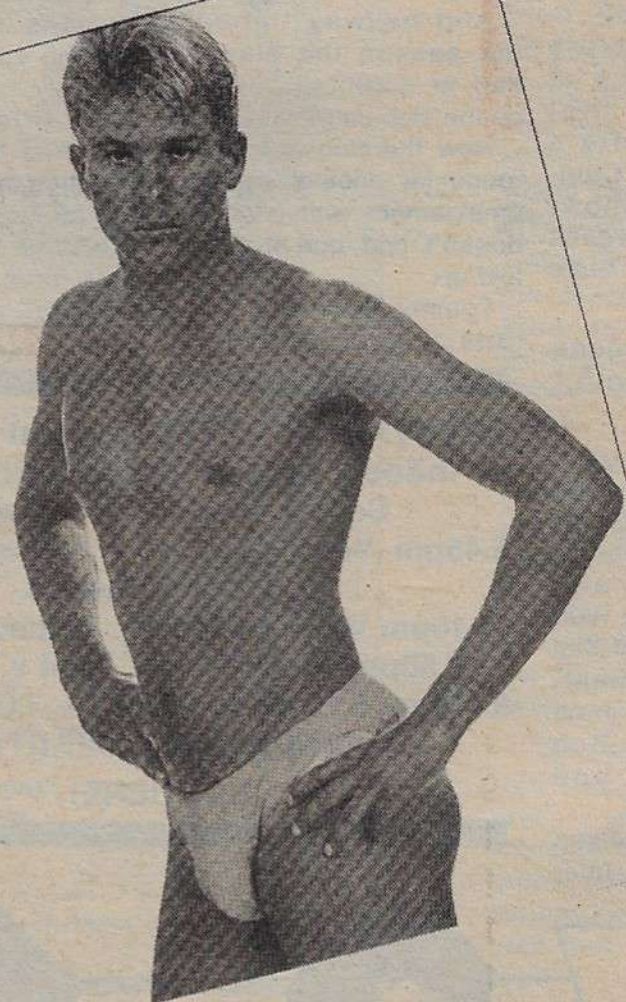
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THE YEAR OF THE ASSISTANT COACH

BY LES SHORROCK

WHATEVER other tag historians might want to attach to 1987, as far as Victorian soccer is concerned, it has definitely been the year of the assistant coach.

In this game coaching is recognised as a precarious occupation but during this season more clubs than ever, it seems, dumped their coaches and found success.

Take firstly the example of Melbourne Croatia. After a disappointing '86 which it was happy to survive without being relegated, it embarked on a massive spending spree close season with 10 players arriving and as many leaving.

Also among the new arrivals was Peter Ollerton, who had surprisingly left the Croydon post to be assistant coach to Terry Hennessey.

Croatia, as it did in '86 won the pre-season Buffalo Cup, and looked set for a good year, but the wheels fell off in the very first NSL round with a humiliating defeat at the hands of Sydney's Croatia.

The Melbourne team recovered from that disastrous start and had some good results, but was inconsistent, and eventually coach Hennessey found the pressure too much and resigned.

So Ollerton found himself in charge of a NSL club much more quickly than he could ever have dreamed, and moreover, at a club that had spent a fortune team building and was naturally expecting success.

It should have been enough to make the stoutest heart quail, but the laconic Lancastrian never shirked a challenge in his Socceroo days and he took it all in his stride.

The team settled down, Ian Dobson and Graham Heys arrived from Preston and you could sense that on and off the field Melbourne Croatia was a much more harmonious outfit than it had been since it joined the NSL.

A lot of the harmony can be attributed to the influence of new president Jack Skoblar and his committee, who have let Ollerton get on with his job without interference.

Although Croatia in the end didn't achieve a

place in the play-offs the club has confirmed its faith in Ollerton by re-appointing him for next season already.

Ollerton himself says that whilst he was a little disappointed as Croatia bowed out, he regards 1987 as a rebuilding period and that there are better things to come.

And the rebuilding isn't over either. Last week he was off chasing a striker and with Heidelberg leaving the NSL he'll certainly be putting in a bid for Jeff Oliver.

Another coach who will be able to look back on 1987 with a great deal of satisfaction is Ernie Merrick, whose ride to fame has been even more meteoric than Ollerton's.

Since assistant coaches merit little newspaper space, few would have noticed that the soft-spoken Scot had moved from Frankston Pines to be assistant to Billy Murray at Preston.

"Ernie who" would have been the average fan's reaction if Merrick's name had been mentioned at the start of the season, but Merrick found himself suddenly thrust into the limelight when Preston sacked

Murray during the mid-season break.

Merrick is the original Kool Kat and he hasn't let the job faze him in the slightest. As I write this his record in charge reads, played 15, won 10, drawn four, lost one, and includes inflicting APIA's first defeat, by a decisive 4-0.

Merrick hails from Edinburgh and in Auld Reekie they aren't given to extravagant statements so Merrick's after match TV interviews tend to be models of understatement.

And when Preston was eventually downed by St George he was as gracious as ever, conceding that the Saints were better on the day.

I believe you won't ever hear Ernie Merrick, win lose or draw, complaining bitterly on TV about poor refereeing or rivals getting undeserved penalties (other coaches please copy) and as a pressman I find it a refreshing change.

Merrick's unassuming attitude and downright honesty has brought a breath of fresh air to the Victorian coaching scene, and it wouldn't surprise one bit if he carried off the Coach of the Year

award at tonight's Bill Fleming bash.

Another coach who had the greatest thrust upon him, as it were, is Rab Nelson of Maribyrnong Polonia.

Nelson led Polonia to the State League championship after Miron Bleiberg resigned, but Nelson's story can't properly be told without reference to Tommy Cumming's stint at Green Gully.

It was the surely disgraceful sacking of Gus MacLeod that cemented Polonia's championship, as Cumming himself acknowledged after the Greens beat Polonia in the State League Cup final.

"If Gus hadn't gone we'd have won both," said tiny Tommy.

Polonia was only staggering towards the winning post when Green Gully's committee chucked in the towel and boosted Polonia's 100 per cent, but the fact that its impetus was maintained at all was due in no small measure to Rab Nelson's urge and personality.

Unlike Merrick, Nelson has been known to utter

the odd word or two, but he's football-wise and everything he says about the game makes sense.

Looking back on Polonia's success it has to be said that it was achieved against all odds.

The club was so strapped for cash that even on the day when it was winning the championship it was appealing for donations to help pay for the players' presentation night.

And halfway through the season the players had to accept a pay cut so the club could survive.

Now the club is looking round for another club to amalgamate with and if it doesn't find one it could fold up.

Tommy Cumming, Victoria's most decorated

player, will not be at Green Gully next year. When he took over from MacLeod as caretaker coach he only did it, he told me, because the club offered him a free at the end of the season.

I understand he is off to a Geelong club.

Gus MacLeod did well to persuade all the big name players at Green Gully who had played in the NSL to sign on without taking a fee, but the result is that most will be leaving either free or very cheaply.

At this moment the favourite for the coaching position would appear to be ex-Maltese international Willie Vassallo, but he will have the thankless task of rebuilding the team.

TOYOTA and LOTTO present a gala night of Indoor Soccer at the Fairfield Leisure Centre, Vine Street... Fairfield.

6.45pm Youth Match — Sydney Tornadoes v Lotto Allstars.

7.10pm Womens Match. Tornadoes v Lotto.

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CROATIA'S HIGH — BULLI'S LOW

By PHIL MURPHY

THE 1987 Illawarra Soccer season has been a dream come true for newcomers South Coast Croatia but ended in a terrible nightmare for defending champions, Bulli.

While Croatia have won the league and grand final double with a chance of also taking the finals of the \$8,000 Ampol Cup, Bulli finished the season on a low note.

The club has been in turmoil over a decision not to allow coach Norm Flanagan time to make up his mind if he wanted the job next season.

For the sake of three weeks at the outside, the club executive decided to refuse Flanagan his request and took on John Frew to replace him.

Players, supporters and many committeemen were outraged by the development and at a special meeting a vote of no confidence went very close to overthrowing the people who made it.

Some players have already made it clear they won't be with Bulli next season and the club's visit to Canberra for the Ampol Cup tie against Canberra College of Advanced Education was a very low key affair.

The bus which went to Canberra carried only 22 people, including the first grade squad.

During this game, the club suffered another major setback when representative defender Ian Cirson broke a leg.

It was the second time he had suffered that fate in the space of just 14 months, the first having been in a league match against Unanderra in August, 1986.

His injury cast further gloom over a Bulli camp which has always managed to convey the image of stability and attracted many top players despite the fact they don't pay anyone.

Next season will be a real test for the club and officials are hoping Frew will be able to find replacements if the threats of a player exodus are carried out.

As for Flanagan, he has had at least three clubs ask him to take over their teams next season and will almost certainly have ex-Bulli players with him wherever he goes.

Ironically, it was Croatia who ended any hope Bulli had of salvaging anything from their nightmare.

In the final qualifying game of the Ampol Cup, Croatia beat Bulli 2-1 at Towradgi Park to qualify for the two legs of the final against Deakin Croatia.

A draw would have been enough to send Bulli through.

After the win, Croatia secretary Ivan Spanicek said at times he has trouble believing his team have achieved so much.

He said when they played their first game in Premier League this year he would have settled



NEIL WILLIAMS
Croatia coach

happily for third or fourth place.

"We have many players who have come up through the Second and First Division in our top team and we thought the job might be too big for them," Spanicek said.

"If someone had told me we would come through to win the league and grand final I would probably have laughed at them."

INTERESTING situation at West Figtree.

The coaching combination of Phil Carr and Luke Robaard, who have been at the club for five seasons, will split up.

They have applied separately for the job next season.

Down south, Shellharbour are about to name their new coach and the man with the inside running is Col Owers, who took Cringila to the grand final this year.

"Deposed" at Bulli, Norm Flanagan has been getting plenty of phone calls and he could well finish up at Fernhill.

Port Kembla have agreed terms with their coach but won't say who he is until their annual ball comes around later this month.

Most people say Joe Mereno is the man to take over from Robert Fryer.

SOUTH Coast Croatia coach Neil Williams was not amused.

When his team played Juventus in their Ampol Cup match in Canberra he wasn't aware of the pre-match warm-up undertaken by most of his players.

It seems that an official took them to the banks of Lake Burley Griffin to fill in time on the morning of the match.

They finished up hiring paddle boats and races were organised.

This resulted in some of the players being very weary towards the end of their 4-4 draw with Juventus.

Williams said he made sure the players stayed well away from the Lake when they travelled south for the first leg of the Cup final on Sunday.

IT was rather ironic that Bulli coach Norm Flanagan should be the man to make sure his captain Ian Cirson got home safely after Cirson broke a leg in an Ampol Cup game in Canberra.

Flanagan was in the centre of a storm after John Frew was appointed for the start of next season.

That decision split the club down the middle and at one stage Flanagan wasn't sure if he would stay on for the Cup games.

Cirson is glad because it was Flanagan who ferried him home in the back of his luxurious Ford Spectron when he was discharged from hospital.

"Now we have the chance of winning first prizemoney in the Ampol Cup and this says a lot for coach Neil Williams and his players."

Williams has done a remarkable job with a team which has shown brilliant attacking flair but been exposed at the back in vital games.

To his credit, Williams didn't panic and towards the end of the season it was basically that same defence which frustrated Bulli and Cringila to take the grand final trophy.

Now Croatia will try to persuade Williams to stay in the job for next season but he has indicated he will be taking a break.

A nagging knee injury and the recent arrival of a baby daughter are certain to see Williams watching from the sideline in 1988.

Ivan Spanicek hasn't given up hope of talking him out of that decision.

ROBERT Fryer has quit Port Kembla and will be back coaching his old club, Aris, next season.

He sees the change as the biggest challenge he has faced because Aris have been relegated from Premier League after finishing last.

No doubt he will attract new players to the club as

they haven't been shy when it comes to offering attractive match payments.

The big change at the club will be that in 1988 there will be more players than officials at training.

Fryer will make sure of that.

THE madness continues.

An Illawarra Second Division club has taken on a coach for next season and promised him \$5,000.

Good luck to the coach but this is just another example of empire building by clubs who have wasted many thousands of dollars in recent years.

We have no doubt the money being offered by clubs in the lower divisions of Illawarra soccer next season would more than cover an NSL side for a year.

Illawarra referee David Naylor almost did the impossible.

The promising whistler who controlled Sunday's NSL Youth League grand final between Sydney Olympic and Apia hadn't handed out a red card until a week earlier.

He sent a player for an early shower in the Inter-Suburban grand final between Dulwich Hill and Rosebery.

Considering he has been controlling Illawarra games every Saturday and travelling to Sydney for games each Sunday that is quite remarkable.

Naylor said after Sunday's grand final he will continue to referee in Illawarra and Sydney next year but quit his local league to concentrate on Sydney appointments in 1989.

A remarkable run of 48 years ended this season.

That was how long Illawarra and Newcastle refs have played their annual end-of-season challenge match.

It seems internal problems in Newcastle prevented their referees making the trip to Wollongong this year.

Canberra refs filled in and provided an entertaining 1-1 draw at Kelly Park.

It was suggested a shootout be staged to decide the winners but players on both sides didn't really have that much energy left.

NSL NEWS

JIMMY PATIKAS will be back in Sydney for good at the end of 1988. He is looking for a house in Sydney's western suburbs in which to settle down with his lovely wife Denise.

Sydney Croatia is expected to sign Jimmy for the bargain fee of \$25,000 for season 1989.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC has already disclosed drastic budget cuts for season 1988.

The club has already pencilled in a budget for 1988 tallying no more than \$300,000 for the year - a massive cut-back from this year's \$700,000.

According to well-informed sources, the days of huge player contracts are well and truly over.

At last economic sanity prevails.

JOHN ECONOMOS

TASMANIA

BY WALTER PLESS

STATE LEAGUE ANNOUNCED

THE Tasmanian Soccer Federation has announced the names of the ten teams that will take part in next season's genuine state-wide State League competition, scheduled to commence in April.

Olympia-WPL, Juventus-Pioneer, White Eagles, Croatia-Glenorchy and Caledonians will represent the south, while Launceston Juventus, Launceston Matric, George Town, Devonport City and Ulverstone are the representatives from the North and North-West of the State.

The surprise omissions were Rapid, Burnie United and Launceston City.

Metro-Claremont and Hobart City-Azzurri were the other unsuccessful applicants.

The president of the TSF, Mr Vic Tuting, MBE, said: "The re-establishment of the State League will be welcomed by all supporters of the code in Tasmania and must lead to an improvement in skills and playing standards."

A Tasmanian State League competition, encompassing all parts of the State, was first established in 1978 but was discontinued for a variety of reasons at the end of the 1981 season.

That league included a reserve division and the high cost of travel due to each club having two teams to support was one of the main reasons behind the demise of the competition.

Brighton-ICL (Caledonians) won the State League championship in 1981 with a win over Launceston Juventus in the final match of the season at South Hobart.

The match was played before one of the largest crowds ever to attend a soccer match in Tasmania, and is the only occasion I can recall in this State when queues were still forming at the turnstiles well after the game had commenced.

If the new State League can attract that sort of support, it should be a winner.

Croatia-Glenorchy are in full training for the coming Croatian soccer carnival scheduled for Sydney from November 12-16.

Twenty teams are expected to participate this year, the 13th time the tournament has been

held, compared to a mere six that took part in the inaugural competition which was also staged in Sydney.

Croatia's preparations will include practice matches, and picnics, barbecues and mock player-auctions will also be held to raise funds for the trip.

Croatia played its first practice match last Sunday and lost 4-6 to Hobart City-Azzurri at Dominic College.

The visiting MacArthur District under-16 side from New South Wales lost its second match of its Tasmanian tour when it went down 0-1 to White Eagles under-16s at KGV Soccer Park.

Broadbent hit Eagles' winner in the final minute of a bad-tempered affair which saw two of the visitors, together with their coach, sent off by referee Basil Masters.

One player from each side was also transported to hospital by ambulance after a hard, physical clash in the goalmouth in the early stages of the game.

A Marconi defender is understood to be looking for greener pastures, obviously somewhere else in Sydney. However he should realise that things aren't all that good elsewhere. Maybe he should start thinking again...

APIA Leichardt is planning a big night at its Leichardt club for its 1987 NSL Champions dinner.

Friday October 30th is the date for this glittering affair, according to their football boss Joe Prestia.

PLAYER power has again raised its ugly head with two Melbourne clubs.

Last week, when officials announced that the club would be retaining their current coach for next year, six NSL squad members vowed they want out.

All six threatened they would leave the club, seeking transfers within two weeks.

Club officials stood firm and told them "O.K., go".

ST GEORGE, never slow in fixing things up early, have already signed up two major sponsors for season 1988. Current sponsors, LOTTO will cease their interest, ending a relationship lasting five seasons.

NAT. LEAGUE

NSL TEAMS: PRESTON: Trialinides, Opatinis, Piculovski, Jackson, Petrov, Tasevski (sent off 68m), Illoski, Stewart, Dimovski (Jolevski), Smith, Gojevic.

SUNSHINE: Keogh, Taylor, Par-ton, Mitten, Faulkner, Gilder (Richardson 80m), Bain (sent off 68m), Marth, Markovac (Innes 86m), Clark, McLaren.

Referee: G Power.
Crowd: 3000.

MELITA EAGLES

1988 YOUTH SOCCER TEAM TRIALS
WILL BE HELD AT
MELITA'S GROUNDS
EVERLY RD, GRANVILLE.
ON

★ SUNDAY 25TH OCT.

★ SUNDAY 1ST NOV.

★ SUNDAY 15TH NOV.

— U 13/14 9am - 11.00am

— U 15/17 4pm - 6pm

★ SUNDAY 8TH NOV U/13-14 & 15/17 4pm - 6.00pm.

ALL ENQUIRIES TO THE SECRETARY

ALAN PRESTON, 23 Cook St,

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WESTERN AUSTRALIA

DAVID ANDREWS will cover any major events in Western Australian football over the balance of the year.



YOUTH PROFILE

NAME: Dean Nicolaou
BIRTHDATE: 11.1.70
HOME: Perth WA
PRESENT CLUB: A.I.S.
PRESENT COACHES: Ron Smith, Gay Cole
PREVIOUS CLUBS: Inglewood, Kiev
PREVIOUS COACHES: Alf De Bono, Derek Henderson, Mel Neston.
FAVOURITE POSITION: Striker, Midfielder.
REP HONOURS: State U13's, U14's, U15's, U16's, U18's, U19's teams.
OTHER HONOURS: ACT v NSW.
FAVOURITE PLAYERS: Maradona, Hoddle, brother Terry.
MOST MEMORABLE MOMENT OR MATCH: Getting asked to A.I.S.
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Being left out of U16 Australian team.
OTHER SPORTS:
1987 AIMS: Keep playing without getting injured.
LONG TERM AMBITIONS: To play for Australia.
GREATEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER: Dad (family), A.I.S.
JOHN WARD'S OPINION: Dean is a very skilful player and can play up front or from midfield. Very good when running at defenders with the ball has a knack of scoring goals. He needs to shoot more with his 1st touch - excellent attitude.

THIS Sunday SBS will show exclusive highlights of Australia's opening two matches in the World Youth Championship being held in Chile at 12.50pm on Sunday... Half an hour of Australia v Togo and Australia v Yugoslavia.

ACT SCHOOLS

THE ACT gained no team honours but reaped a number of individual successes on the last day of the Australian Schools Soccer Championships in Perth.

Defender Craig Hoogendoorn was named joint boys player of the tournament with David Scott of NSW, while girls' goalkeeper Sara King won her section outright.

King and Alex Focken were selected in the first Australian girls squad with Sasha Wainwright, Sophie Mathas and Susie McMurtrie in a 10-player "back-up" group. Four ACT boys were names:

Hoogendoorn, John Gibson, Steve Horvat and Greg Mills.

Earlier, with NSW already assured of the championship, two goals each from Hoogendoorn and Gibson had given the boys a 4-0 win over the Northern Territory in their last game.

NSW also won the girls title, putting ACT on the rack with a 9-0 victory. Coach Cass Hampton named King, Mathas and Samantha Alston as her best players. "Without Sara it would have been 20-0," she said.

URUGUAYAN PENRITH

THERE will be a very experienced line-up of top players involved in the

APIA JUNIOR SOCCER CLUB

NSW YOUTH LEAGUE CLUB CHAMPIONS 1987

The above Club will be conducting a limited number of trials on the following dates...

TUESDAY OCTOBER 20th Under 13s and 14s.
 THURSDAY OCTOBER 22nd Under 15s and 16s.
 TUESDAY OCTOBER 27th Under 13s and 14s.
 THURSDAY OCTOBER 29th Under 15s and 16s.
 TUESDAY NOVEMBER 3rd Under 13s and 14s.
 THURSDAY NOVEMBER 5th Under 15s and 16s.

VENUE: LAMBERT PARK
 Marion Street, LEICHHARDT
 Further Enquiries: Mr Tony Raciti
 Phone: 799 4458, Day or Night.

REFEREES NEED ENCOURAGEMENT

BY TOM MCKAIN

A PROPOSED "super panel" of 10 referees for next year's West End National League is expected to be opposed by the Australian Referees' Federation.

The "super" set-up follows some complaints and incidents this year when at least two referees were dropped from the current panel.

Word now is that the refereeing body feels that if there is a select panel there will be no encouragement or opportunity for other referees to progress.

South Australian referees' secretary, Bob Wray, has already said his division of the Federation is against the panel.

"Every referee aims for his FIFA badge nomination and if they don't get experience they become discouraged," said Mr Wray. "We are not suggesting every referee should be thrown in at the deep end."

"There should be careful selection, but there should not be an elite list created."

Mr Wray has a point.

Referees are like players. They can have their off days, and they can lose form, or they can be struck down by injury or illness.

However, we do agree there should be a "super" panel, but perhaps it could be increased from the proposed 10, with what could be termed back-up whistlers who could be slotted in for experience to handle selected matches.

State Federations are also complaining that their clubs are deprived of top referees because they are used exclusively in the NSL.

This is another reason why the elite list of 10 could backfire.

A larger panel would allow the hotshots to occasionally handle a State League match, and maintain some sort of peace between the NSL and the State clubs.

ANY clubs outside South Australia wanting to sign Adelaide City players will have to move fast.

Coach Zoran Matic, reappointed last week, has given his players 10 days to make up their minds about signing new contracts.

STIRKER Joe Mullen, believed to be on the shopping list of Melbourne and Sydney outfits, while likely to make a move will still be with Adelaide City next year.



Word is he wants one more year in South Australia in his job with a finance company before trying his Soccer luck elsewhere.

IF Adelaide Hellas makes it back into the national league scene, don't be surprised to see another Youth Socceroo in its line-up.

Current midfielder star Lou Hristodoulou is a close friend of defender Kurt Reynolds, the Youth captain, and the Blacktown player is stated to be interested in joining him in Adelaide if the club gets back into the big-time.

The pair are currently playing for Australia in the World Youth Cup finals in Chile.

selection of the Uruguayan Penrith Youth squads.

Leading first team players John Bradley, Brett Woods, Washington Gonzales, Leon Arcosa and Fernando Mosquera will all be giving a hand.

Last year the club juniors played on Alpha Park at Greystanes, but this year they are aiming to have something more convenient.

NSW U16 YOUTH

IT is with a very heavy heart that I write to you. I am being told that the U16 years teams in the NSW State Youth League are to be eliminated for season 1987 and beyond. I know that Amateur Soccer Federation has always catered for and structured

their competitions so that players can develop and mature professionally.

I have been playing with my present team in the U13, U14 and U15 Youth League in a structured progression and now I find all of a sudden that next year they pulled the carpet from under my feet.

How would you feel if you are 15 years like I am and have to face trials and boys that already have players U16 the year before. Sure some will make it but what about the others, where can they go?, back to the local associations? Have you played there after State Youth League?

What chance have I got to get my place back into the 17 years group after a wasted year in local district Soccer.

I speak and write as a youth player who has planned his Soccer career according to the Amateur Federation rules. How can I develop if you

keep changing your minds. Have you considered the consequences of wiping out one age bracket to those boys affected?

Sure the best will always survive but at these formative ages the best is still being developed, if you only let it!!

'Youth Player'
 Name & address
 supplied

NATIONAL LEAGUE PLAY-OFFS

THE first leg of the promotion play-offs for a National League place will be contested by Adelaide Hellas and Brisbane Lions at Hindmarsh Stadium on Sunday.

The return game on Sunday October 25 will be at the Lions Stadium at Richlands in Brisbane.



PAGEWOOD: Back row: Alan Lytton (coach), Mandy Langlar, Julie Dolan, Katherine Robinson, Jedde Aggeboe, Janine Adams, Chris Bradley, Cindy Heydon, Tina Raftopoulos, Anissa Tann. Front Row: Margaret Petrov, Kim Lembyrk, Maureen Dalton, Therese Dillon, Debbie Bonfield, Judy Clark.

MORE NSL MURMURS

BY TOM MCKAIN

WHO'S kidding who about the revolution brewing in Victorian West End National League circles.

The Age, Truth and Melbourne Herald have all spoken of dissatisfaction with the NSL executive.

The cost of keeping a team in the league - Sydney referees - bias against Melbourne clubs - no consultation with Melbourne clubs - rules being used against Melbourne clubs - the list goes on.

But if the claims are true, can the critics answer these questions?

Why are two Melbourne clubs talking amalgamation so they can participate in the League.

Why are others fighting to swing rules round so that they can stay in the League after losing points?

If there are officials who don't want the League, or don't want to be in it, the answer is simple.

Adelaide Hellas, Brisbane Lions and a composite new Perth club want in.

Get three Victorian sides to drop out or entire complement of six. Their places would be filled in a flash from Adelaide, Brisbane, Perth, Canberra and Newcastle and Sydney's Melita Eagles.

Gripes from Victoria have brought action with meetings of key NSL figures being held regularly, the most recent in Sydney. No details have been released but we understand there was an "open" discussion and

several points raised have been put into a special report being prepared by NSL executive director Stefan Kamasz.

We found it amusing to read in The Age that the Victorians wanted a return to their local league then "super play-offs" between the States. Surely they had that last year when only two South Australian teams intruded in their "super league."

The result? Crowds did not leap because there were games most weeks between Melbourne teams. There was a cry to get back to the one "super" national league. Now some people want to take another backward step.

And this is only the first season of the new West End League sponsored by a company willing to put up \$3 million!

If the Victorians want the NSL disbanded, that is their business. The NSL and the rest of Australia should tell them to pack up and stick to playing in their own backyard.



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FOR THOSE WHO
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 SERIOUSLY





Australian Capital Territory



GRAHAM COOKE presents a complete coverage of the ACT scene.

Canberra Griffins affected. . .

GET GRAND FINAL

THE fact that Canberra had someone other than the Raiders rugby league team playing in a Sydney grand final went unnoticed by all but the most dedicated Soccer fan in the national capital.

The Griffins, who once regularly drew crowds of 6000 and 7000 at Bruce Stadium, played out their 2-1 loss to Wollongong City without so much as a flicker of interest from the vast majority of Canberra's concentrating on the Sydney Cricket Ground.

In many ways it was a good thing the Griffins also lost, because ACT Soccer was spared the humiliation of seeing its victorious team return unheralded and virtually unnoticed while the beaten Raiders received the freedom of the city.

Officials are kidding themselves if they believe it would have happened any other way.

There are many, many reasons for Soccer's decline from a major sport to a virtual pariah status among the football codes. One is its attitude to finals series in general.

In some years finals are in favour, in others they are not, in some seasons everything is at stake when they are played, in others they are meaningless exercises, little more than attempts to squeeze a few more dollars out of Soccer fans before summer sets in.

The NSL is a classic case. This year Apia-Leichhardt is the champion by virtue of being

first past the post but finals series will still be held; in the previous three seasons everything depended on the play-offs; in 1983 they were not even held, and so it goes on.

Colleague, Frank Scioluna, writing in AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY, summed it up: "The

ACT RIGHT

National League must no longer continue to hedge its bets on the method of deciding the championship. It has to either accept the Australian system of a finals series to provide the winner or stick solely to the internationally traditional first-past-the-post procedure."

I will go further and advocate that the NSL, and indeed Soccer generally, should accept that for all the wrong reasons grand finals are what Australians expect and love.

Something in our character rejoices at the sight of a worthy champion's season of hard work and dedication disappearing down the drain with one miskick. We celebrate at the sight of the mighty laid low.

Sadly, Soccer should forget arguments about whether it is fair or not and introduce and promote the grand final system as a first step on the admittedly formidable journey of bringing the code back to national prominence.

JUVENTUS GO DOWN

JUVENTUS could not climb out of their personal chamber of horrors fast enough to salvage their once-bright hopes in the Ampol championship series, losing 3-1 to CCAE.

A disastrous final 45 minutes against South Coast Croatia was mirrored by an equally traumatic first half, during which it conceded three goals.

There's nothing more likely to shake the College out of its customary lethargy than a quick goal, and Albert Martinez could hardly have done the business earlier.

Goalkeeper Dennis Watson tripped Tom Alexakis in the area and Fulvio DiPrinzio scored from the spot. Then Martinez broke through and Watson made a total hash of his friendly prod goalwards, allowing the ball under his body and into the net.

CCA: Wilson, Polombi, Malins, DiPrinzio, Stone, Robinson, Thornton, Alexakis, Martinez (M Guigni), Felezi (D Guigni), Cooper. JUVENTUS: Watson, Moulis, De Angelis, Nguyen, Kalsbeek (N Rinaudo), Buck, Serena, Exposito, Manaen, Sparkes (Portelli), D Rinaudo. Referee: N Murray.



THE ACT Junior League will not be making any concessions to schools in the Territory when the four-term year becomes a reality next year.

It had been told that under the new system the schools only wanted to play matches on 11 Saturdays in the season.

A separate competition had been suggested, but the League rejected this saying that if schools wanted to continue playing in the ACT League they would have to compete on weekends they might now consider to be outside their winter sports season.

LEWIS HITS CCAE

CCA: virtually bowed out of the Ampol series competition by going down 3-0 to Bulli but it was a costly-bought victory

Ian Cirson was carried off with a suspected broken ankle after coming off the worst in a late tackle on Albert Martinez, while Steve Quirk was shown the red card on a striking charge.

The man who did the damage was Kevin Lewis. Tall and slightly built he looked too frail to be a top striker, but still managed to beat the College defence in the 32nd, 50th and 68th minutes.

The College was able enough in its own approach work, but with Joe Minello sidelined through injury the inability to score goals which dogged it earlier in the season surfaced again.

The games in Wollongong between Belconnen United and Cringila United, and Croatia Deakin and Wests-Figtree, both ended in 1-1 draws.

Michael Wiseman gave Belconnen the lead from a Dean Ugrinic cross only to have it cancelled out by Slobovan Tupanceski

CCA: Wilson, Polombi, Malins, DiPrinzio, Stone, Robinson, Thornton, Alexakis, Martinez (Cooper 74th), Guigni, Felezi. BULLI: Nutter, White, Mann, Cirson (Carpenter 54th), J Van De Voord, Charnock, Baker, Quetcher, Lewis (Christie 87th), Quirk (sent off 82nd), R Van De Voord.

AMPOL CUP SERIES

CROATIAN CLASH

THE first Ampol Soccer championship provided the final the organisers dreamed about when Croatia Deakin and South Coast Croatia emerged triumphant in the last round of group matches.

Not only are the finalists League champions in their two respective competitions in the ACT and Illawarra, but the added spice of a Croatian derby over two legs should do much to boost attendances in the fledgling competition.

While South Coast edged past Bulli 2-1 in Wollongong, Croatia was hardly doing it in style with its 1-1 draw against Belconnen United at Deakin Oval.

It was a drab display with the under-strength United always struggling despite taking the lead in the ninth minute.

Micky Searle, Belconnen's liveliest forward, broke away down the right, outpaced John Santolin then allowed goalkeeper Frank Reising to commit himself before choosing his spot to score.

The lead lasted six minutes. Lemezina slipped the ball to Vic Trajanoski then received it back to hit a fine shot on the run past Richard Tomaszewski.

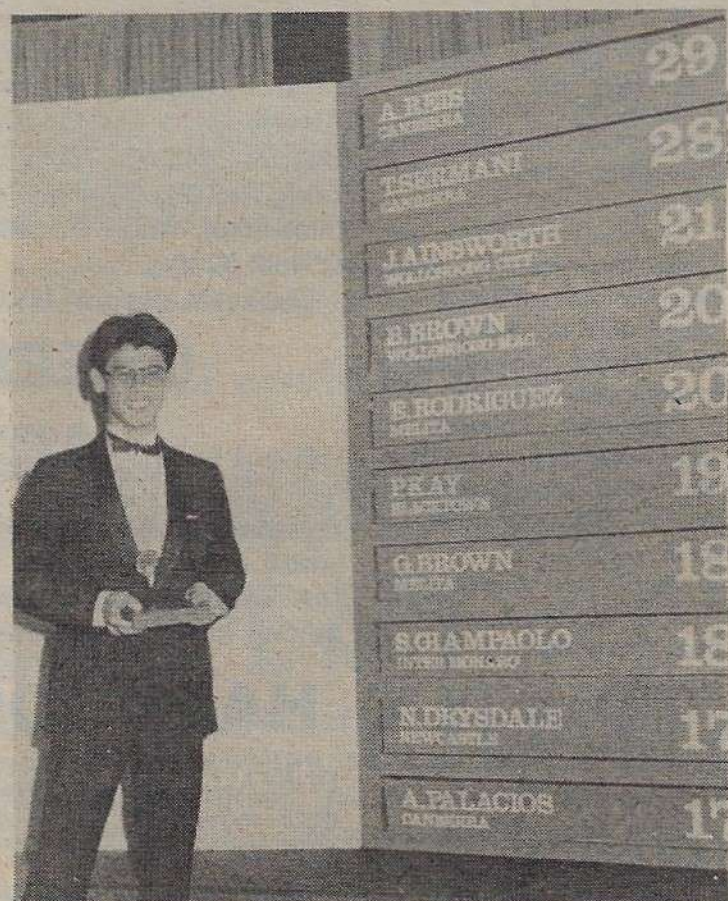
But the game did not live up to its opening promise. United, minus four players through suspension and injury, settled in to grim defence hoping for the lucky break that never came, while Croatia could do nothing with their near total dominance over the remaining 75 minutes.

Searle was outstanding for United, figuring in most of its all too infrequent surges upfield, while Croatian defender Zoran Glavinic and striker Lemezina provided some sparkle in a game best forgotten.

United now meet Bulli in the play-off for third and fourth place.

CROATIA DEAKIN: Reising, Z Glavinic, Salgado, Santolin, Harkins, Lustica (Docketty 80th), Dukic, Forova, Lemezina, Ujdur (Zelic 46th), Trajanoski.

BELCONNEN UNITED: Tomaszewski, Willett, Cook (Roberts 64th), Bennett, Watkins, Holcroft, Fiorese, Ugrinic (Wiseman 76th), Johnstone, Searle, McGready. Referee: P Murphy.



CANBERRA GRIFFINS' NSW Rothmans Medal winner — ALAN REIS. He is pictured standing next to the scoreboard on the night of his win at the Hilton. Photo — Modern Studios.

2SSFM SOCCER

THE ACT's first soccer radio program, Soccer Round-Up on 2SSFM, completed a run of 30 editions on October 2.

The program has basically been the work of three men — ACTSF publicity committee chairman Steve Doszpot, reporter Peter Windsor and producer Con Kourpanidis — although a number of special guests made contributions during the season.

Doszpot said there had been no shortage of news to cover, with some regular features of the early days having to be trimmed in order to make room for everything in the limited air time available.

SOCCER AIDS SCHOOLS

NSW State Bank League club Canberra Griffins have received a certificate from the ACT Schools Authority recognising their support for public education in the territory.

Club publicity officer John Bonnett said the certificate, the only one presented to a sporting organisation, resulted from the Griffins' schools coaching program conducted over the winter.

Under the Shoprite-sponsored program, coach Augusto Palacios and several Griffins players visited a number of schools teaching Soccer skills and promoting interest in the code.

The scheme has been commended for its thoroughness. Palacios said before his return to Peru that it had been one of his most enjoyable duties during his stay in Canberra.

AMPOL C'SHIP ACT GROUP

Croatia Deakin and Belconnen United stand on four points, Cringila United 3 and Wests-Figtree 1. ILLAWARRA South Coast Croatia 4, Bulli 3, CCAE 3, Juventus 2.

"SOCCER SCENE"

WITH STEVE DOSZPOT AND JONOTHAN BONNET. ABC RADIO 2CN EVERY SATURDAY 5.30-5.45PM

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AUSTRALIAN INDOOR PAGE



DON'T MISS THE BIG INDOOR KICK-OFF on SBS TV. Starting from November 15 in place of the Match of the Day programme.

SYDNEY TOYOTA TORNADOES 5 (Jeffery 3, Stuart and Erkin Osman)
THOMASTOWN TWISTIES 2 (Metaxas and F.Carvalho)

Despite going behind 2-0 in the early stages the Tornados were making the headway. Yet they faltered when the Twisties stepped up the pace and quick goals from John Metaxas and Fortunato Carvalho had the Sydney side more than a little bothered.

But Glen Jeffery had his side on the board in quick time and on level terms a minute into the second half. From there on the Tornados added three more and held on for a comfortable victory.

BUFFALO Points: 2 Glen Jeffery (Tornados) 2 Steve Knight (Tornados) 1 John Metaxas (Twisties) 1 Craig Carlisle (Tornados).

RITA IN CANBERRA

RITA O'Neil, Mackay Indoor Soccer Associations' Australian representative, is at present in Canberra at the Institute of Sport for a week's training camp, in preparation for a tour of New Zealand with the Australian Indoor Soccer team.

Along with Rita four other girls will be touring. They are Debbie Mifsud, Sonya Muscat and Abi Keightley in the Under 16s, and Margaret Carter in Under 19s. Mark Sleeman is a shadow player for the Under 17 boys also for New Zealand.

HOLIDAYING

WELCOME home to chairman of the James Hardie NISL, Bryan Anstee who has taken a well earned seven week break holidaying in Canada and the United States. Bryan is the Group Advertising Manager for the James Hardie Industries corporation.

SLOW TO STRIKE

CANBERRA City Strikers, off to a very slow start in this year's James Hardie NISL, feel they have turned the corner and will be looking to charge their way into the final four.

The Strikers, who went down heroically to Sydney Tornados in last year's final, welcome the return of outdoor players Billy Willox and John Nelson from the Canberra Griffins and youth internationals Brian Watkins and Willie Sturton.

The Strikers, who have been on the road for most of this season, also point to seven home games on the trot as one good reason why they expect their fortunes to change shortly.

GRIDLINE EAGLES 12 (Filipovic 5, Blazic 2, Nastoski 2, Radosavljevic 2, Blagojevic)
PARRAMATTA SPARTANS 1 (Akkary) at Fairfield.

A tremendously fought out contest in which the Eagles were supreme in all departments was upset when a fan invaded the playing arena halfway through the second half.

The action caused an abandonment of the match with seven minutes remaining with Gridline well in control, but disappointed at not being able to up its score.

The incident allegedly occurred when the member of the gallery became irate after a clash between the Spartans' Hector Martinez and Gridline's Zoran Blazic.

What followed was a melee in which players and spectators alike were pushing and shoving each other.

Before that though there was a game of 'futsal' taking place and once again the likes of Radovan Filipovic and Blazic had it all to themselves.

The battle between Filipovic and Martinez, the two artisans of the indoor arena, was never given a real chance to materialise as the latter was to sit out the majority of the match. Yet when he did enter proceedings the Eagles skipper seemed to hold the upper hand well and truly in wits and skill.

Eagles: Curcic, Radosavljevic, Nastoski, Filipovic, Blazic.
Subs: Antic, Blagojevic.
Spartans: Musumeci, Silva, Akkary, Spirovski, Dameski.
Subs: Speranza, S.Duval, Martinez.

BUFFALO Points: 3 Zoran Blazic (GE) 2 Radovan Filipovic (GE) 1 Mirko Radosavljevic (GE).

MACKAY IN FULL SWING

IN the first night of the new 23 round Beaconsfield Service Station' Senior Men Indoor Soccer League, nine teams are battling for top positions.

Buffalos, who finished fourth last season, won their game 3-0 with the goals coming from Darren Johnston, Greg Dow and Malcolm Stanley.

The Personics, who were playing under the Nissan flag last season and have secured the services of Darrin Pullen from D.E.M.P's, beat the Jets 9-2. Darren Pullen netted 6 times for the Personics along with Russell Turner 2 and Kevin Hewson 1. The Jets scorers were Tony Christensen and Francis Xavier.

Triple "S" look like the team to beat this season, after finishing runner-up last season. They played a reformed Russ's Raiders side who have signed Andrew Wilson and Mike Haber. The Raiders went into the half-time break leading 4-3, but in the second half Triple "S" showed their class and scored a further four goals to give them a 8-4 victory.

Shawn Callaway and Mark Sleeman both scored hatricks and 2 goals came from Chris Willett. For the Raiders Mike Haber netted twice with Andrew North and Andrew Wilson getting

one each.

B.P. Tigers had a good tussle with the Tigers coming out on top with a 4-2 win. Warren Dunlop scored three and Wayne Galloway one. For the Bakers Rite O'Neil and Brian Keightley scored one each.

Beaconsfield made up for their first lose by beating the Jets 7-0

Again Buffalos showed their class in their second game beating the Maltese Bullets 4-0, with goals coming from David Rover, Jason Raikaki, Darren Johnston and Malcolm Stanley.

The Personics took out their second game beating the B P Tigers 4-0. Jack Abbott netted twice along with a goal each from Russel Turner and Darrin Pullen.

Triple "S" were the third team to gain maximum points for the night by beating the Maltese Bullets 4-1. John Aquilina got the Bullet's goal. Chris Willett with 2 and Shane Callaway and Troy Gaston were the scorers for Triple "S".

Russ's Raiders celebrated their first ever win in indoor Soccer with a good 6-0 victory over Re-

gal Bakeries. Andrew Wilson and Mike Haber both scored 2 goals each with Mark Delaney and Russ McCowat getting one each.

LADIES

ANSETT Tornados are hanging on to the top of the Ladies Indoor Soccer League at Soccer World after three weeks of games, with D.M.P's and Brambles only one point behind.

Brambles took points from Taylors Pharmacy beating them 4-0. Gail Willis scored a hatrick with Sharon Wright getting 1.

Two first half goals by Kooyong City strikers Jenny Manning and Michele Drury gave them the points against Taylors Pharmacy.

Ansett Tornados and Brambles had the crowd on their feet. Although the game finished a 0-0 draw both teams played some lovely indoor Soccer.

The B.52's played an excellent game against league leaders the Tornados, holding them to their second score-less draw of the night. The B52's will be a team to beat this season.

AI S COACHING

THE first level one coaching course will be staged at the AIS in early November. Coaches seeking accreditation should direct enquiries to head office...(02) 7711677.

AUSSIE LADIES FOR KIWI LAND

TWO training sessions daily (9-11am and 2-4pm), lectures and video discussions, together with two matches, was the daily routine for the national ladies team during last week's training camp at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra.

Injury prevention, diet, psychology and fitness training were the themes of the lectures given to the team from the AIS experts.

Nick Nicolopoulos, the national coach, put the girls through two gruelling sessions daily working on fitness, tactics and a cohesive playing system for the forthcoming three Test series against New Zealand in NZ.

The touring party is: Nick Nicolopoulos (coach), Arthur Manning (Illawarra, trainer), Airene Sein (ACT), Sally Rundle (ACT), Cindy Heydon (NSW), Trish Leonard (ACT), Kim Lembyrk (NSW), Sharon Young (NSW), Sue White (Illawarra), Anita Rheinberger (Illawarra) and Rita O'Neill (Qld).

The team departs on October 26.

GREENWOOD ACTIVE

FORMER ASF executive member Barry Greenwood is now involved in a substantial way with the indoor movement in Western Australia among other things lending a hand as a referee.

GILLIGAN CONCENTRATES ON LOTTO ALLSTARS

LOTTO Allstars' Scott Gilligan has resigned from his position as NSW Director of Coaching, feeling that his job was interfering with his game with the Allstars.

The Australian Indoor Soccer Federation is seeking applications from parties interested in applying for the position as State Director. Applications close on October 31, and should be in writing to the President, P.O. Box 249, Revesby NSW 2212.

Meanwhile Victoria will announce their new Development Officer later this month.



The Cougars from rear, left to right: Michael Roki, Zoran Antanasovski, Peter Gangemi, Rick Loreto, David Lee.

Front, left to right: Vlado Strafela, Boris Antanasovski, Richard Gaitan, Gavin Brown, Mike Katinski.

HARDCOURT BALL

BUFFALO Sports, considerable backers of the indoor movement, have developed a hard court ball suitable for playing on concrete and asphalt surfaces. Managing Director Eane Whitton advises the new hard court ball is now available from Buffalo outlets.



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The James Hardie National Indoor Soccer League

NO HOLDS BARRED WEEKEND!

IT was certainly an action-packed series of matches in round seven of the JHNSL... crowd disturbances, player troubles and many, oh so many goals and FRANK COLETTA will cover it all in his report.

SYDNEY TOYOTA TORNADES 3 (Erkin Osman, Knight and Stuart) GEELONG CC's Cats 0 at Fairfield.

IN an excellently contested match the Tornadoes showed their mettle by defying a gutsy Geelong CC's outfit to the tune of 3-0.

As early as the first minute Eddie Radojevic had the ball in the back of the net only to be ruled inside the area. Erkin Osman quickly pounced for the home side when he rammed his long range effort in beyond

Lucky Inturrisi's dive.

It was nip and tuck throughout and Geelong to all intents and purposes can consider themselves unlucky not to have grabbed a draw. But as ever the sheer professionalism of the champions stood out and two goals inside the last three minutes sewed the match up. The first came from captain-coach Steve Knight and the third and final, just seven seconds from time, from vice-captain Robbie Stuart, both from direct free-kicks.

A tireless performance came from Geelong's Robbie Nogger, who was consistently in the action and continually denied by Craig Carlisle. John Lembyk stood out for the home side.

Tornadoes: Carlisle, Erkin Osman, Tour, Moon, Ormrod. **Subs:** Cassar, Knight, Stuart, Lembyk, Erjan Osman.

Cats: Inturrisi, S.Radojevic, McAuliffe, Nogger, E.Radojevic.

BUFFALO Points: 3 Robbie Nogger (CC's) 1 John Lembyk (Tornadoes) 1 Craig Carlisle (Tornadoes) 1 Lucky Inturrisi (CC's).

LOTTO ALLSTARS 3 (White 2 and Peahy)
THOMASTOWN TWISTIES CRUSHERS 1 (Metaxas)
at Fairfield.

IN a match that failed to send the pulse racing the Allstars outlasted the Thomastown lads to earn a hard-fought win.

THE highlight of this encounter was the tussle between the brilliant Robbie Nogger of the CC's and his manmarker, Rod Skellern of the Allstars.

When one consults the scoreboard, Skellern did his job but this is not to say that Nogger was kept out of the match — far from it in fact.

But the Allstars began this clash by sitting in defence and allowing the CC's to come forward. In doing so they were caught out on the break by John White late in the first half and Lee Sutherland early in the second.

After Sutherland's goal the home side shut up shop and were content to hold on for the points. **BUFFALO Points:** 2 John White (LA) 2 Robbie Nogger (CC's) 2 Rod Skellern (LA).

CANBERRA STRIKERS 28 (Stewart 8, Willox 7, Kanaridis 6, Stirton 3, Murray 2, Jadric 1, Tansey 1)

CANBERRA STRIKERS 13 (Stewart 4, Willox 4, Kanaridis 3, Murray 1, Tansey 1)

BRISBANE BOMBERS 3 (Armstrong 2, Simpson 1)
at Dickson College.

The Canberra Strikers have started to produce some of their form from last season finally.

The match was a free-flowing one and well controlled by the referee Ron Parker. It was Brisbane that opened the scoring through Colin Simpson in the 4th minute against the run of play.

A superb hat-trick by man of the match Billy Willox in the next eight minutes put the Strikers in command. This was in fact the Strikers' first home win of the season as they blasted nine goals to the Bombers one in the second half.

Strikers: Hayes, Willox, Tansey, Murray, Kanaridis. **Subs:** Stewart, Jadric, Stirton.

Bombers: Antonelli, Barnard,



BRISBANE's
Ian Wotherspoon.

TWISTIES's Peter
Papalazarou.

IMB ILLAWARRA STINGERS 6 (Wunches 2, Tutancheski 2, Cabanas and Mathias)
BRISBANE BOMBERS 1 (Simpson)

The IMB Stingers looked fairly settled for the first time after they sacked four players who were good technically but lingered with a bad attitude.

But the Bombers had their own problems. In fact Keith Sharrock displayed the enormity of the predicament by placing himself in goals as the regular keeper was out with a hand injury. He acquitted himself admirably by the way.

The home side were never in danger and spurred on by the vocal crowd of just over 200 Illawarra stormed away for a creditable victory.

Stingers: Sales, Tutancheski, Shute, Cabanas, Mathias. **Subs:** Skirteski, Davis and Wunches.

Bombers: Sharrock, Barnard, Simpson, Armstrong, Wotherspoon. **Sub:** McLeary.

BUFFALO Points: 2 Mathias (IMB) 2 Klaus Wunches (IMB) 1 Bobby Tutancheski (IMB) 1 Richard Barnard (BB).



WHAT'S THIS THEN? Every Wednesday prior to training the Geelong CC's Cats boys grab hold of ASW to check up on all the indoor information. Captain-coach Steve Radojevic is flanked by from left to right: Jack Drazinic, Eddie Radojevic, Steve Perin, Peter Vanjek, George Dimovski, Steve McAuliffe, Dinko Uljar. Front: Robbie Nogger and Peter Stojanovski.

Again the travellers were somewhat unlucky not to at least grab a draw if not a win.

John Metaxas had the Twisties off on the right foot after just three minutes when he snuck in between Scott Gilligan and Phil Dolton.

But John White's introduction brought immediate results for the Lotto side as he levelled things up four minutes from half-time.

It was White again on the spot seven minutes after the interval and Steven Peahy made it 3-1 after 34 minutes.

Allstars: Thurlow, Vince, Dolton, Gilligan, Takchek. **Subs:** Skellern, Peahy, Sutherland and Del Giudice. **Twisties:** Carafa, Ferreira, F.Carvalho, Metaxas, Hackett. **Subs:** Papalazarou, Plizzo.

BUFFALO Points: 2 John Metaxas (TT) 2 Bruce Thurlow (LA) 1 Steve Hackett (TT) 1 John White (LA).

LOTTO ALLSTARS 2 (White and Sutherland)
GEELONG CC's Cats 0
at Fairfield

BUNDEBERG CANECUTTERS 3 (J.Giovannoni 3)
at Dickson College, ACT.

The less said for Bundaberg's sake the better. The 28-3 scoreline in favour of the Canberra Strikers surpassed the previous record held by league leaders Gridline Eagles over the Canecutters.

Taking nothing away from the Strikers, who showed clinical finishing to the utmost degree, the Canecutters were understaffed and most on the field carried injuries into the match.

Billy Stewart, Jim Kanaridis and Billy Willox had field days but spare a thought for Bundaberg's John Giovannoni who cracked a hat-trick in just half an hour after spending the first ten minutes in goal!

Strikers: Hayes, Willox, Tansey, Murray, Kanaridis. **Subs:** Stewart, Jadric, Stirton, Vickers, Dale.

Canecutters: Burt, Heading, J.Giovannoni, D.Giovannoni, **BUFFALO Points:** 3 Billy Willox (CS) 2 Billy Stewart (CS) 1 John Giovannoni (BC).

Wotherspoon, Simpson, Armstrong. **Subs:** McLure, Sharrock.

BUFFALO Points: 3 Billy Willox (CS) 2 Jim Kanaridis (CS) 1 Billy Stewart (CS).

ILLAWARRA STINGERS 5 (Shute, Skirteski, Wunches, Davis and Mathias)

BUNDEBERG CANECUTTERS 0

Bundaberg's stoic goalkeeper Brett Burt grabbed all the accolades despite his sides 5-0 defeat at the hands of the IMB Illawarra Stingers.

If it hadn't been for him the visitors could well have been on the wrong end of another double figure scoreline.

It took until the 13th minute for the Stingers to break through and that came via Nick Shute.

The IMB boys displayed admirable teamwork and made a point of the fact by sharing all five goals around the team.

Stingers: Sales, Wunches, Davis, Shute, Skirteski. **Sub:** Mathias. **Canecutters:** Burt, Heading,

The James Hardie Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
GRIDLINE Eagles	11	10	1	0	104	42	21
PARRAMATTA Spartans	12	9	0	3	80	52	18
SYDNEY Tornadoes	9	9	0	0	42	17	18
PERTH Cougars	9	5	1	3	70	49	11
CANBERRA Rockets	12	5	1	6	66	68	11
LOTTO Allstars	8	4	2	2	21	19	10
CANBERRA Strikers	12	4	1	7	92	64	9
ILLAWARRA Stingers	10	4	0	6	43	37	8
THOMASTOWN Twisties	9	4	0	5	45	44	8
GEELONG CC's Cats	9	2	2	5	36	40	6
BRISBANE Bombers	13	2	0	11	41	93	4
BUNDEBERG C'cutters	10	0	0	10	21	134	0

Gridline Eagles 12 Parramatta Spartans 1
Sydney Tornadoes 5 Thomastown Twisties 2
Sydney Tornadoes 3 Geelong CC's 0
Lotto Allstars 3 Thomastown Twisties 1
Lotto Allstars 2 Geelong CC's 0
Canberra Strikers 28 Bundaberg C'cutters 3
Canberra Strikers 13 Brisbane Bombers 3
Illawarra Stingers 5 Bundaberg C'cutters 1
Illawarra Stingers 6 Brisbane Bombers 1
Canberra Rockets 6 Brisbane Bombers 2

BUFFALO TopScorers

The Sharpshooters

- 48 Radovan Filipovic (Eagles)
- 27 Jim Kanaridis (Strikers)
- 26 Billy Stewart (Strikers)
- 25 Zoran Antanasovski (Cougars)
- 21 Carlos Akkary (Spartans)
- 21 Emil Maracic (Rockets)
- 21 Zoran Blazic (Eagles)
- 19 Stan Dukic (Rockets)
- 17 Robbie Nogger (CC's)
- 17 Vince Nastoski (Eagles)
- 17 John Metaxas (Twisties)
- 15 Peter Dameski (Spartans)
- 13 Steve Knight (Tornadoes)
- 12 Michael Roki (Cougars)
- 12 Colin Simpson (Bombers)
- 12 Fortunato Carvalho (Twisties)

BUFFALO PLAYER OF THE YEAR

- 24 — Radovan Filipovic (Eagles)
- 14 — Zoran Blazic (Eagles)
- 14 — Robbie Nogger (CC's)
- 11 — Stan Dukic (Rockets)
- 11 — Steve Knight (Tornadoes)
- 10 — Peter Dameski (Spartans)
- 10 — Jim Kanaridis (Strikers)
- 9 — Carlos Akkary (Spartans)
- 9 — Sasha Spirovski (Spartans)
- 9 — Billy Stewart (Strikers)
- 9 — John Metaxas (Twisties)
- 8 — Dragan Perkovic (Rockets)
- 8 — Fortunato Carvalho (Twisties)

NEXT WEEKS GAMES: Friday 16th October
Stingers v Cougars at Wollongong Uni
Rockets v Allstars at AIS

Saturday 17th October
Rockets v Cougars at AIS
Tornadoes v Spartans at Fairfield
Strikers v Allstars at Dickson College
Sunday 18th October
Strikers v Cougars at Dickson College



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CATLIN'S COMEBACK

BY FRANK SCICLUNA

WHEN Marconi keeper Bobby Catlin accompanied his former APIA team-mate Ian Gray on the long journey from Manly to Bossley Park for pre-season training back in January, little did he realise that what started out as a "bit of a training run with my old mate Iggy" was going to rejuvenate his flagging career.

The 22-year-old giant, who is built like a rugby league front row forward, had come through the APIA junior ranks and held the goalkeeper's position in the National League for two seasons until the arrival of Rale Rasic at Lambert Park in 1986.

Catlin became one of the first victims of Rasic's rebuilding programme and spent the last year marking time in State League with local club Manly Warringah.

That was a huge setback for the youngster, whose ambition is to once

again hold down a regular place in the NSL.

His prospects at Marconi looked pretty bleak early on, with Bruce James secure in his first team position and former youth international Paul Jones regarded as the obvious second choice.

Catlin's determination at training however impressed Roberto Vieri so much that when James suffered a shoulder injury on the eve of his opening match against Brunswick Juventus, Vieri hurriedly signed up the keeper and had him on the flight to

Melbourne ahead of Jones.

That was a decision which Vieri admits was a risky one but the gamble paid off. Catlin had a blinder even though Marconi went down 2-1.

Vieri had no hesitation in retaining Catlin as his number one choice until James regained his fitness and forced his way back in the side.

An ironic sideline to the keen but always friendly rivalry between the two keepers is a memorable incident during one of Catlin's early appearances for APIA in a match against Marconi at Henson Park in 1984.

Assisted by a strong wind Catlin made a long clearance which travelled the length of the field and bounced over James' reach into the net.

Scoring that unique goal still ranks as one of Catlin's highlights in his short career and takes every available opportunity to remain James of it.

The intense battle to cement a regular spot in the Marconi team has now taken another twist by James going down with a virus forty eight hours be-

fore the recent match against Footscray.

Catlin was drafted into the side at the last moment and grabbed his unexpected opportunity with both hands in a near faultless performance.

That was quickly followed with another masterly display in the defeat by Melbourne Croatia which prevented James from reclaiming his position for the match against Sydney Olympic.

Vieri is now faced with the dilemma of choosing between his two in-form keepers but that is a situation which no coach will complain about.

As for the eventual winner of this fascinating duel only time will tell.

But, in the meantime, Marconi can thank it's lucky stars that the young Telecom technician from Manly persevered with making the two and half hour round trip to Bossley Park three times a week "just to have a run".

As for Catlin himself, there's no knowing where that journey may take him, but it's a safe bet that his target of establishing himself in the National League is well on the way to being achieved.



BOBBY CATLIN gets in behind a shot.

YOUTH LEAGUE 1988

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Campbelltown City Soccer Club, the premier club in the Liverpool/Campbelltown/Camden area, invites all soccer players, from u/13 to U/16 for trials.

Trials will be held at Lynwood Park, Rangers Road, Campbelltown on the 25th of October commencing at:-

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CHARLIE'S FIGURING

AN interesting by-play occurred at the NSW Rothmans Award dinner at the Sydney Hilton.

Michael Cleary, the Minister for Sport Recreation and Tourism, presented Reis with the medal and yet again vowed to sponsor Soccer, mainly at the NSW Soccer Federation Headquarters at Valentine Park.

"I will give you \$10,000 more than last year," said the minister. However, the amount of last year's donation, claimed by the NSW SF treasurer Mr Charlie Valentine to be in the vicinity of 160,000 dollars was only 110,000 dollars.

"After I informed the NSW SF treasurer that I intend to give the Federation an extra 10,000 dollars as their part of the allocation to the code, Charlie told me that the last years sum was 160,000 dollars," said the minister jokingly. "Then I checked the last year's figure," added Mr Cleary with the smile.

BEST SIDE IN NSW

BY ALEX VESIC

AND what about the team of the year 1987 according to the referees.

Having taken the best placed player from each club plus Craig Burchmore, the best placed goalkeeper in the competition will give us the following formation.

Burchmore - Rodri-

NSW STATE BANK LEAGUE 'BAS' LEADS

BY ALEX VESIC

Having picked the best side in NSW at the end of each year I felt it would be an honour to do it again.

We will endeavour to honour the NSW Player of the Year in future at a function which will most likely be held at one of the State League's clubs. This year the choice of the best 18 players with 11 best players in their positions as well as reserves to complete the squad are by far the most difficult to judge.

There are so many players that deserve their place in the team but I will make an attempt to put out a functional unit as well as a squad of above average players competing in the NSW State Bank League for 1987.

This is my choice:
Clint Gosling (Melita

Eagles) - Ean Rodri-gues (Melita Eagles), Mirko Radosavljevic (Warringah Freshwater), Scott Dickson (Wollongong City), Steve Bryant (Canberra Griffins) - Jimmy Campbell (Warringah Freshwater), Paul Kay (Blacktown City), Augusto Palacios (Canberra Griffins), Sebastian Giampaolo (Inter Monaro), - Roberto Giral-di (Wollongong City), Alan Reis (Canberra Griffins).

Reserve goalkeeper; Steve Watson (Blacktown City)

Defenders: Jason Dunn (Canberra Griffins), Billy Pilovski (Rockdale Ilinden)

Midfielders: Greg Lerond (Sutherland), Tom Sermani (Canberra Griffins)

Forwards: Marko Perinovic (Inter Monaro), Randell Easthorpe (Wollongong City)

gues, Pilovski, Ainsworth, Dean, - Kay, N. Drysdale, Bradley, Lerond, - Giampaolo, Reis.

Reserves: B. Brown, Arambasic, Jeffery. Useful side indeed.

This is the list of top 32 place getters at the end of the 1987 season.

FINAL PLACINGS: Reis (Canberra).....29
T. Sarmanni (Canberra).....28
J. Ainsworth (Wollongong).....28
B. Brown (Macedonia).....20
E. Rodriguez (Melita).....20
P. Kay (Blacktown).....19

G. Brown (Melita).....18
S. Giampaolo (Inter).....18
N. Drysdale (Newcastle).....17
G. Jeffery (Kuringal).....17
A. Palacios (Canberra).....17
R. Maier (Blacktown).....16
J. Bradley (Uruguayan).....15
W. Farnsworth (Melita).....15
G. Lerond (Sutherland).....15
B. Pilovski (Ilinden).....15
A. Dean (Freshwater).....14
D. Corrigan (Freshwater).....13
D. Skeen (Wollongong).....13
G. Lee (Blacktown).....12
B. Woods (Uruguayan).....12
Z. Arambasic (C'berry).....11
C. Burchmore (S'land).....11
A. Callanan (Melita).....11
C. Grills (Newcastle).....11
J. Gaggelli (Inter).....11
R. O'Shea (Sutherland).....11
D. Batten (Uruguayan).....10
D. Caisley (Newcastle).....10
R. Easthorpe (Wollongong).....10
M. Radosavljevic (F'r).....10
W. Gonzales (Uruguayan).....10



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STATE AND COUNTRY FINALS

RUSHY'S CORNER

State results

Day 1: U14s: Sydney (1) 4 Riverina 0, SNSW 2 WNSW 0, NNSW 0 Sydney (2) 0, Sydney (1) 1 SNSW 1, Sydney (2) 4 Riverina 1, NNSW 3 WNSW 1.

U15s: Sydney (1) 3 Riverina 1, Sydney (2) 6 NNSW 0, SNSW 2 WNSW 1, Sydney (1) 3 SNSW 1, Sydney (2) 3 Riverina 0, WNSW 0 NNSW 3.

U16s: Sydney (1) 2 Riverina 0, Sydney (2) 2 NNSW 0, WNSW 3 SNSW 2, Sydney (1) 6 SNSW 0, Sydney (2) 4 Riverina 0, NNSW 8 WNSW 0.

Day 2: U14s: Sydney (1) 1 NNSW 0, Sydney (2) 2 WNSW 1, Riverina 1 SNSW 0, Sydney (1) 6 WNSW 0, NNSW 1 Riverina 1, Sydney (2) 4 SNSW 0.

U15s: Sydney (2) 7 WNSW 0, SNSW 2 Riverina 1, Sydney (1) 3 NNSW 1, Sydney (2) 6 SNSW 3, NNSW 3 Riverina 1, Sydney (1) 11 WNSW 1.

U16s: Sydney (1) 2 NNSW 1, Sydney (2) 10 WNSW 0, Riverina 5 SNSW 0, Sydney (1) 9 WNSW 0, Sydney (2) 3 SNSW 0, Riverina 3 NNSW 1.

Day 3: U14s: NNSW 2 SNSW 0, Sydney (1) 2 Sydney (2) 1, Riverina 3 SNSW 0.

U15s: Sydney (1) 0 Sydney (2) 2, NNSW 2 SNSW 0, Riverina 1 WNSW 1.

U16s: Sydney (2) 1 Sydney (1) 0, NNSW 1 SNSW 0, Riverina 3 WNSW 1.

STATE CHAMPIONS
U13: Marconi. U14: APIA Leichhardt. U15: Sydney Olympic. U16: Blacktown City.

Runners Up
U13: Olympic. U14: Southern Districts. U15: Marconi. U16: Sydney Croatia.

COUNTRY CHAMPIONS
U13: WNSW. U14: NNSW. U15: NNSW. U16: Riverina.

Runners Up
U13: NNSW. U14: Riverina. U15: SNSW. U16: NNSW.

U13 CHAMPIONSHIPS:
In the under 13s Marconi ended up as State Champions in the series played at Parkes.

The runners up were Sydney Olympic, Country Champions Western NSW and runners up Northern NSW.

NSW CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS: U9: Granville 4 pen Nepean 2, Southern Dists 1 Manly 0.

U10: Granville 2 Nepean 1, Southern Dists 1 Canterbury 0.

U11: Sutherland 2 Macarthur 1, Canterbury 3 Bankstown 2.

U12: Blacktown 1 Macarthur 0, Bankstown 1 St George 0.

U13: Macarthur 3 Blacktown 0, Southern Dists 4 Manly 2.

U14: Granville 2 Nepean 0, Southern Dists 4 pen Canterbury 3 pen.

U15: Gladesville 1 Blacktown 0, Illawarra 2 Canterbury 0.

U16: Gladesville 3 Granville 1, Manly 1 Southern Dists 0.

U17: Granville 1 Gladesville 0, Illawarra 3 St George 1.

U18: Gladesville 1 Sutherland 0, Southern Dists 1 St George 0.

U21: Gladesville 3 Granville 2, Manly 3 Bankstown 1.

All age: Granville 3 pen Nepean 2 pen, St George 2 Ku-ring-gai 0.

Women: All age: Bankstown 5 Blacktown 2.

THE NSW State and Country Championships were played over the weekend at Valentine Park Parklea in glorious weather.

Blacktown City reversed the result of the youth league grand final, defeating Croatia 1-0 to take the U16 title while Riverina were declared Country champions.

Steve Cutler as captain of Blacktown City accepted the Championship trophy from Arthur Jessop, President of Northern NSW.

APIA were crowned U14 State Champions and captain Dean Stojkovic received the championship trophy from Bill McIlveen, the tournament director.

NNSW won the country championship on a superior goal scoring record from Riverina.

Ron Beaumont, secretary of the Referees' Federation, presented Sydney Olympic captain George Sorras with the U15 State championship trophy.

NNSW were crowned country champions after their superb win over SNSW in the final game of the tournament.

Marconi repeated their youth league grand final performance by defeating Sydney Olympic in the final game to win the U13 State Championship in Parkes.

Western NSW were declared country champions and NNSW were runners-up.

The NSWASF would like to thank the following people for contributing to a highly successful tournament - Bill McIlveen tournament director, Bill Cullihan competition secretary, Frank Broughton registrar, as well as the other members of the executive Frank Wilson First Aid and strapper, Staff and management of Valentine Park. Special mention also to the referees who did an excellent job.

U14: APIA U14s representing Sydney scored the first goal of the tournament in the second minute of their opening match against Riverina.

APIA went on to record a 4-0 victory although Riverina squandered many opportunities through poor finishing. Scorers: Aldo Martinich 2, Roman Kikolic 2.

H Mullen converted a penalty in each half for Southern NSW to defeat Western NSW 2-0.

Northern NSW showed they could be the team to beat in the U14 bracket as Southern Districts representing Sydney Branch had difficulty containing a well drilled team. The final score of 0-0 flattered the Sydney squad.

U15: Riverina playing together for the first time were unable to hold Marconi who never had to get out of first gear winning 3-1. Scorers: Marconi M Curmi, J Suzor, P Okon. Riverina N Mancuso.

Robbie Stanton played

a dynamic role for Sydney Olympic representing Sydney to demolish Northern NSW, scoring a hat-trick in the process.

G Papageorgiou and R Galloway (2) also joined the scoring spree which saw Northern defeated 6-0.

Southern NSW defeated Western with goals from Dean Fitzgerald and Andrew Robard, while Western's lone goal was scored by C Lamberton.

U16: Croatia representing Sydney branch struggled to overcome a determined Riverina team, running out eventual winners 2-0 with goals from E Alilovic and S Frketic.

Blacktown City proved to be too strong and skilful for Northern NSW winning 2-0. However, Northern showed they have plenty of talent and could

goals in his team's 4-1 victory.

Northern continued to impress and goals from Joshua Powell and Greg Williams set up a comfortable 3-1 win over Western NSW.

U15: Game 2: Marconi appeared to lack drive in their win over Southern NSW. Southern in fact scored first through Robert Beuzeville and should have gone on with the job, but they let off Marconi who got up to win 3-1 with goals from Oscar Padilla and Glenn Johnson (2).

Olympic looked impressive and they continued their early form, defeating Riverina 3-0. Scorers: G Papageorgios, J Pazis and R Galloway.

Northern NNSW picked up the first points of the

ling out an 8-0 thrashing. Scorers: Brad Dorahy (3) Tommy Kolinowski, Cameron Wallace, Mark Paul and Troy Denning (2).

DAY 2: Game 3: U14: Roman Nikolic provided some superb touches on the ball to put Aldo Martinich behind the defence to score the only goal of the match for APIA in their clash with NNSW.

Roman's individual brilliance was the only difference between the teams in a tremendous game of skill and determination.

Mauricio Reyes and C Saladiarre provided the goals for Southern Districts in their 2-1 win over WNSW. The Western goal was scored by W Barber.

Riverina scored a shock win over SNSW with J Lal netting the only

two well taken goals but NNSW managed to pull back through Robbie Kock and the match could well have been a draw.

Hat-tricks from A Charlewod and Terry Ide set up a 10-0 win for Blacktown City over WNSW. Other scorers for Blacktown were S McArdle, B Maloney and H Goldstein.

Riverina had few problems in demolishing SNSW 5-0 to record their first win of the tournament.

U14: Game 4: APIA put the cleaners through WNSW with a Roman Nikolic hat-trick, two to Richard Prior and yet another for Aldo Martinich for a 6-0 win.

Northern and Riverina played out a tough 1-1 draw, David Rowe netting for Northern and J Lal for Riverina.

southern Districts will need to defeat APIA in their final match in order to win the championship as they could manage only four goals against SNSW. Scorers: Mauricio Reyes 3, Pablo Capdevilla.

U15: Game 4: Olympic's perfect defensive record was blown to pieces by Southern NSE who managed to put three in the back of the net.

Unfortunately for Southern their own defence was not up to scratch either and they went down 6-3. Scorers: Olympic: C Evangelidis, R Stanton, G Sorras, R Galloway and D Seal 2. SNSW: R Beuzeville, N White, D Fitzgerald.

Both NNSW and Riverina appeared to be suffering the effects of the heat with Northern managing to win 3-1.

Marconi ran riot over WNSW in an attempt to improve their goal average.

Goalkeeper and fill-in striker John Bowles scoring a hat-trick in the process and talented midfielder Pul Okon slotting home five in their 11-1 victory.

Other scorers for Marconi were Adam Cianta, Oscar Padilla and Glenn Johnson while L Storey netted for WNSW.

U16: Game 4: Croatia failed in a desperate attempt to push their goal difference ahead of Blacktown City by only two goals.

Croatia defeated WNSW 9-0, while Blacktown's three goals against SNSW kept them on top of the goal averages, meaning a draw with Croatia in the final match would give them the title.

Scorers: Croatia: I Marasa 2, S Frketic 2, E Ollivovic 5. Blacktown: S McArdle, B Maloney 2.

Riverina put themselves in with a great chance of winning the Country Championships by defeating NNSW 3-1. Scorers: Riverina: J Tucker, M Tesmer, J Maynard. Northern: B Dorahy.

U15: Game 5, Blacktown had slightly the better of play during the first

half of a highly competitive and entertaining match.

In the second half Blacktown took the game right up to Croatia and were rewarded late in the match when Billy Mannix beat the keeper from close range after excellent lead-up work from Brad Maloney.

All the players competed in good spirits with outstanding displays from Billy Mannix, Steve Cutler and Daniel Bishop of Blacktown City.

Northern defeated Southern in a tough battle by the lone goal scored by Tommy Kolinowski.

Riverina secured the Country Championship in defeating WNSW 3-1. Scorers: Riverina: M Tesmer, B Stankiewicz. WNSW: A Gosper.

U14: Game 5: Northern NSW defeated SNSW 2-0 to secure the Country Championship trophy with goals from Greg Wilson and David Rowe.

APIA repeated their Grand Final performance to defeat Southern Districts 2-1 and also win the U14 State Championship. Scorers: APIA Aldo Martinich 2. Southern: Mauricio Reyes.

Riverina's 3-0 win over WNSW was one goal short of what was required to win the country championship. Jason Lal scored all three goals.

U15: Game 5: Olympic defeated Marconi 2-0 to win the U15 title.

Northern NSW won a do or die battle with Southern 2-0 with goals from Darren Green and Shane Overekar.

Riverina and WNSW shared the points in their final match of the tournament with the game finishing in a 1-1 draw.

SOUTHERN DISTRICTS

SOUTHERN DISTRICTS Under 14 side proved that keen associations can match it with the juniors of the leading NSW clubs.

This year Southern Districts were good enough to be runners-up to APIA.

Their Under 14s and 11s both made it to the State titles.

Under president George Baldock and secretary John Wilson and with Rob Neesam (tel: 604 8504) as Youth League Director, Southern Districts, which covers areas such as Liverpool and Fairfield, is looking ahead.

They want to use local talent to the utmost, and are currently advertising for top junior coaches and managers for the U11 to 17 years representative teams.

The Association is also negotiating to enter teams in the NSW Federation as well.

N.S.W CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS FINALS AT VALENTINE PARK, PARKLEA THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18th.

GRADE	GROUND	KICK OFF
U 9	1	8.45am
U10	2	8.45am
U11	3	8.45am

PRESENTATIONS 10.30am

U12	3	10.15am
U13	2	10.15am
U14	1	10.15am

PRESENTATIONS 12pm

U15	1	11.45am
U16	2	11.45am
U17 Women	3	11.45am

PRESENTATIONS 14.5pm

U17	3	1.30pm
U18	2	1.30pm
U21	1	1.30pm

PRESENTATIONS 3.30pm

All age women	1	3.15pm
All age man	2	3.15pm

PRESENTATIONS 5.30pm

FINALISTS

Winston Hills v Liverpool Albion
Winston Hills v Mt. Pritchard
Sylvania Hts. v APIA

Rooty Hill RSL v Revesby Workers
Campbelltown v Mt. Pritchard
Greystones v Liverpool Albion

Gladesville Ravens v Warilla
Roselea v Brookvale
Sutherland v Nepean

Pendle Hill v Figtree
West Pennant Hills v Sydney Utd.
Normanhurst v Pittwater

Panania v Shamrocks
Hills Independent v St. George

upset a number of teams. Scorers: Scott McArdle and Brad Maloney.

Western NSW scored the winning goal in the last minutes of the match to defeat Southern NSW 3-2. Goals were scored by A Gosper 2 and T Wilson for Western and D Smith and J Harrison for Southern.

U14: Game 2: Southern NSW showed they were a team to be reckoned with when they scored early in their match with APIA. They were unable to hold out and APIA managed to equalise late in the second half.

Southern Districts found themselves in trouble early on when Jason Lal netted for Riverina. The Riverina team were unable to control Mauricio Reyes who was in superb touch scoring all four

tournament when they defeated Western 3-0, the goals being scored by A Harris and D Matchett (2).

U16: Game 2: Croatia, Blacktown City and Northern NSW proved they were the teams to beat in the U16 age group as all three registered large wins over their opponents.

Croatia sank Southern's hopes with a 6-0 win with goals from B Krkovski, E Alilovic, M Novokmet, J Matosin and I Maras (2).

Blacktown continued their winning form defeating Riverina 4-0. Scorers for Blacktown City included goalkeeper and part time striker Terry Ide. Other scorers were W Mannix, D Read and B Maloney.

Northern gave Western a football lesson in hand-

goal of the match.

U15: Game 3: David Deal scored a hat trick as Sydney Olympic ran riot over Western and at this stage appear to be playing their best football all year. Olympic won 7-0. Scorers: J Vickery, M Crossetta, G Sorras, B Baltatsis, D Seal (3).

Two goals from Nathan White were enough to give Southern NSW the points in a hard fought 2-1 win over Riverina. M Panbianco scored the Riverina goal.

NNSW improved dramatically on their previous performances and certainly gave Marconi a scare. Marconi had to work extra hard to eventually win 3-1. Scorers: Marconi M Barbaro P Okon (2). NNSW A Harris.

U16: Game 3: Croatia went to an early lead with

OLYMPIC'S BIG DOUBLE

By ALISTAIR RUSSELL

SYDNEY Olympic and their success hungry fans celebrated last Sunday as the youth team completed the double in winning the grand final against APIA 1-0 after clinching the championship last month.

The Olympic supporters were out in force to watch their side dominate the match for the full 90 minutes after their first team had failed to reach the semi-finals.

APIA rarely threatened and Olympic keeper Bill Londos touched the ball twice in the first period — both from back passes.

However the domination Olympic had was not reflected in the scoreline. In fact they had to rely on a freak own goal just five minutes from extra time for the winner.

The goal was a cruel blow to APIA who had held tight for long periods of Olympic pressure with keeper Terry Greedy keeping them in the game with a classy display once again.

Olympic began like a train as they had all through this, their most successful youth season.

Marshall Soper typically was in the thick of the action and was fouled three times inside the first 10 minutes. And he was booked in the eighth minute for a late tackle.

The first chance fell to Steve Chilas after only five minutes but his free header following a Tom Pontidas cross was saved by Greedy.

Jason Bennett laid off a perfect pass for fullback David Barrett but the defender's drive from the edge of the box went just wide.

Three minutes later Soper's cross was met by Andy Harper but the ball went wide again.

Pontidas threaded the needle for Chilas who in turn laid off for Harper who wasted the chance by blasting wide.

Olympic's surge was relentless. It seemed only a matter of time before they would take the lead.

Genaris' corner was nodded just over by big stopper Nick Plataniotis in the 24th minute and Barrett hit the side netting from an acute angle after a good solo run two minutes later.

It was after 28 minutes that Olympic got the break they wanted. Soper chased a ball into the box and was shoved by Dean Radic. Referee David Naylor had no option but to award Olympic a penalty.

Chilas stepped forward and seemed to be put off by Greedy's stalling tactics. Duly Chilas lifted the spot kick high over the bar.

Olympic never flinched and continued to hammer Greedy's goal. In the 39th minute Soper carved himself a chance by wriggling free of three defenders but his shot under pressure went over the bar.

Soper dropped the ball at Pontidas' feet two minutes later but the midfielder also shot high.

For all Olympic's possession, flair and chances they had nothing on the scoreboard at the break — a tribute to APIA's stout defence and Greedy's brilliance.

Would APIA hold on for another 45 minutes and grab a late winner as they did against St George a few weeks ago? Would APIA create a chance at all? Or would Olympic run riot and take the grand final in style?

Olympic were flat for long periods in the second half and APIA became more adventurous as their defence held firm at the back.

Four minutes into the second half APIA's Paul Pettenon broke away and only a goal-saving tackle from Plataniotis denied APIA.

Steve Georgakis got Olympic into gear again with a great cross to the far post for Harper.

Through a crowded area Harper drove his chance across the face of goal taking the paint from Greedy's post.

Vic Bozanic, the sheriff in the APIA defence, went close with a free kick after 60 minutes with the ball just wide of the far post.

Twenty minutes from time Soper had Olympic's best chance to date. They floated the ball over the back of the defence but Soper's shot from eight metres was blocked by Greedy's legs when a goal looked certain.

The Olympic supporters reached fever pitch as they roared for their young charges. Pontidas slipped a free kick into the box for Soper, who cleverly turned and shot from an angle. Again Greedy positioned himself for a great save.

APIA were hanging on and in the 76th minute Olympic breathed a sigh of relief as George Koukounaris shot wide after making a good break.

Olympic delivered the cruel blow in the 85th minute when sub Steve Refenes chased a ball on the left flank. Covered by two defenders, Refenes still managed to get a harmless looking near post cross over where Peter Papoythis endeavouring to clear, stuck the ball into his own net, giving Greedy no chance.

Just as the match looked destined for extra time, Olympic went ahead and left APIA no time to recover.

The champagne flowed as Olympic took their deserved lap of honour. Even APIA would have to admit the grossest injustice had Olympic not won, not for a long time in Australian soccer will one side completely dominate a Grand Final.

The accolades must go to Olympic. For the entire season they have played champagne Soccer dropping just one point, against APIA.

Two weeks ago Olympic took APIA to the cleaners winning 4-1, last Sunday was a different ball game, a new prize and Olympic took it.

OLYMPIC: Bill Londos, David Barrett, Steve Georgakis, Nick Plataniotis, Jeff Briggs, Nick Genaris (Eric Hrist 86th), Andy Harper, Tom Pontidas, Jason Bennett (Steve Refenes 65th), Steve Chilas, Marshall Soper.

Best players: Tom Pontidas, Steve Georgakis, David Barrett.

APIA: Terry Greedy, Dean Radic, Vic Bozanic, Peter Papoythis, Mark Brady, Tony Ancora (Mick Criticos 19th), Paul Pettenon, Vince Speranza, George Koukounaris (Kazan Had-

den 86th), Tony Pisano, Stathis Bakirtis.

Best players: Terry Greedy, Peter Papoythis, Mark Brady, Paul Pettenon.

OLYMPIC 1 (Papoythis og) APIA 0.

Next match: Sydney Olympic will play the winner of the Southern Division Grand Final at a venue to be announced on November 1.



BACK ROW L to R: Vicki Morley-Davies, Janice Welmer (vc), Linda Mitchell, Michelle Holahan, Kim Sangster, Joanne Eveleigh, Nancy Hutchens, Bill Turner (coach). MIDDLE: Mandy Park, Jaylee Wilkinson, Natalie Hutchens, Rayville Burns, Kelly Sheldon, Karen Porter. FRONT: Riarnon Morley-Davies, Melissa Kembrey, Cassandra Adams (capt), Kylie Burgin, Tammy Holahan, Kelly Barwise. ABSENT: Tina Williamson.

den 86th), Tony Pisano, Stathis Bakirtis.

Best players: Terry Greedy, Peter Papoythis, Mark Brady, Paul Pettenon.

OLYMPIC 1 (Papoythis og) APIA 0.

Next match: Sydney Olympic will play the winner of the Southern Division Grand Final at a venue to be announced on November 1.



Here Jason Bennett (9), Vic Bozanic (3), Vince Speranza (8) and Steve Georgakis do battle.

BOORAGUL GIRLS WIN WESTLAKES

DAGLEISH IMPRESSED

From JOHN TSCHEPPIERA

A USTRALIA'S National Under 16 Soccer coach Vic Dagleish was impressed with the organisation of the Under 14 championships held at Devonport and also with a number of the players. This augurs well for the future of Aussie Soccer.

"Soccer is the biggest sport in Australia on the playing field, but the increasing numbers make it hard for me to select a side," he said with a laugh.

"I love doing the job and receive great satisfaction from it," he added.

Australia can look forward to further success when Scotland hosts the World Under 16 Cup in 1989.

In the final analysis, NSW won the championship with 15 points, only one ahead of Victoria.

Following them were Queensland (12), Western Australia (10), Northern NSW (7), South Australia (7), Northern Territory (3), ACT (3) and Tasmania (1).

Victorian captain Sony Seven headed the scorers with seven goals. He is making arrangements for a trial with Manchester City.

Other topscorers were: 6: Danny Stresnjak (Vic), Will Hastie (Vic), Eddie Lees (Qld), Michael Musitano (NSW). 5: Matthew Dihm (NSW), Jason Golby (NSW), Elio D'Amico (WA), Daran Andrews (WA). 4: Phillip Lavery (Qld), Ross Aloisi (SA). 3: Jeffrey Suzor (NSW), Bradley Gambrell (NSW), Lori Ristevski (Vic), Zachary Mina (Qld), Vincenzo Iacopetta (SA), Lori Stojanovski (NNSW), Jay Crawford (NNSW).

And talk about the love of Soccer — 14-year-old Peter Brockington from Newcastle took up the opportunity to travel to Tasmania with friends to see the Championships. Peter, who represented NNSW Under 13s in '86 and missed out this year has set his sights on the Under 14s next year — and, with his ability, determination and love for the game, he won't go far wrong.

Joe Bacak, the nippy Victorian winger has a bright future ahead of him. He was assisted to the championships courtesy of his club, Melbourne Croatia, and showed that his coaching, both at Croatia and with the Vics, will make him a handful for any defence in the future.

Referees David DeCani and Udo Wallinger received awards from NSW team manager Karl Posselt after the tournament for their fine performance throughout the week.

HELENSBURGH WIN MARGIN CUP

HELENSBURGH THISTLE Soccer Club won the inaugural Margin Cup 2-0 against the strong Greenacre team in extra time. Budgewoi secured third spot over Wyong with a 1-0 victory also in extra time.

A total of \$3,000 prize money was on offer with Helensburgh securing \$1,500.

The competition started Saturday morning and finished last Monday with the final between Helensburgh and Greenacre. The competition for the entire weekend was keenly fought with all games producing exciting and close Soccer. Teams from Penrith as well as Wyong, Budgewoi, Gosford City and Central Coast contested the Cup and added to the spirit of the weekend.

The organisers were well pleased with the response from participating teams. Already discussions have taken place for the second cup tournament over the

same long weekend next year.

The presentation held at the end of the final paid tribute to local prominent businessman Barry Margin, after whom the trophy is named and who was in attendance to present the inaugural trophy to the winners Helensburgh.

The finalists as well as Penrith provided stiff opposition to the local clubs and if the teams are strengthened next year as is predicted, it will be one of the highlights of the end of the season.

Full credit must go to the organisers of the weekend, namely, Brian Mackey, Jill Smith and Beryl O'Brien and particularly the sponsors, Australian Fixed Trusts, Laminex Industries, Central Coast Gas Centre, Radio 2GO, Epic Building Supplies, Ourimbah-Lisarow RSL Club and Avis (Central Coast).

— KEVIN BEST

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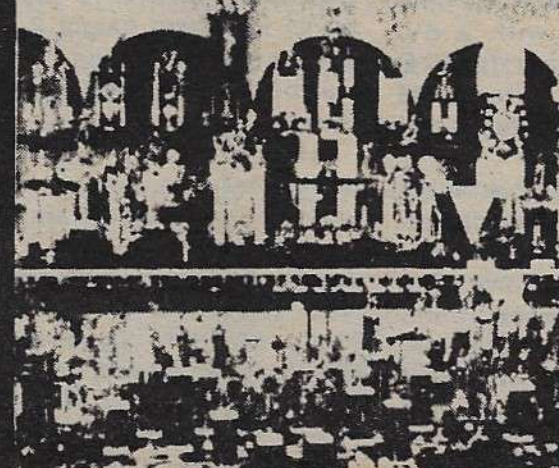
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The Wide World of Football

Celtic have been snubbed by former Shamrock Rovers striker Alan Campbell, who was offered a more attractive contract by Belgian Second Division club Berchem. Campbell has been playing in Spain for Santander and Logrones.



ERIC GATES (dark shirt) in his Ipswich days

ABERDEEN striker JOHN HEWITT has settled his differences with the club after a year on the transfer list.

The 24 year old forward was furious when Celtic's \$600,000 bid for him in the summer was turned down. But now he is ready to stay at Pittodrie.

Says manager IAN PORTERFIELD: "John is a quality player and I'm delighted that he is going to see out his contract."

WATFORD has signed Queens Park Rangers midfielder Gary Chivers. But manager Dave Bassett got a flea in his ear when he said he was also after Niall Quinn of Arsenal.

Gunners boss George Graham said: "I am the one who will decide Niall Quinn's future. Not the manager of Watford."

Random dope testing could be introduced into Scottish Soccer, Scottish Football Association (SFA) president David Will said last week.

EAGER ERIC

ERIC GATES is determined to prove he still has a part to play at Roker Park in spite of being transfer listed by new Sunderland boss DENIS SMITH.

Says the 32-year-old former England striker: "The past couple of years have been like being repeatedly kicked in the teeth."

"But it's a long time since I have felt so eager to be involved in the action."

"I've never been inclined to go overboard about managers, but I am tremendously impressed by Denis."

"I have no wish to leave Sunderland and want to help my home club back to the top."

CHARLTON are lining up Huddersfield's prolific DUNCAN SHEARER as a possible replacement for leading scorer JIM MELROSE.

Melrose has asked for a transfer because he wants a move back North, but former Chelsea striker Shearer, 25, would help soften the blow of his departure.

Scotsman Shearer made just two appearances for Chelsea, scoring once, before a \$20,000 transfer to Huddersfield in March, 1986.

In his 18 months at Leeds Road he has cracked 36 goals in 56 games and last season finished runner-up to Portsmouth's MICK QUINN for the Second Division's Golden Shoe award.

DUTCH COACH Ger Block, 41, has been named national team manager in Honduras. Former manager Chalato Ucles, who led the country to the World Cup Finals in 1982, has been promoted to a post within the Honduran Ministry of Sport.

ASTON VILLA's former Scotland striker Andy Gray is being given a free transfer in the big clearout that Graham Taylor has undertaken at Villa Park.

Taylor said of Gray on his return from Notts County where he has been on a month's loan: "Andy has been a great servant to this club, but we are looking for younger legs. To be honest I thought that the move to Nottingham was going to be a permanent one for him."

TOTTENHAM reserve team keeper Tony Parks, hero of the UEFA Cup victory over Anderlecht, has asked for a move from White Hart Lane.

Porto, having failed to lure Johann Cruyff from Ajax, have appointed Yugoslav Tomislav Ivic as team manager.

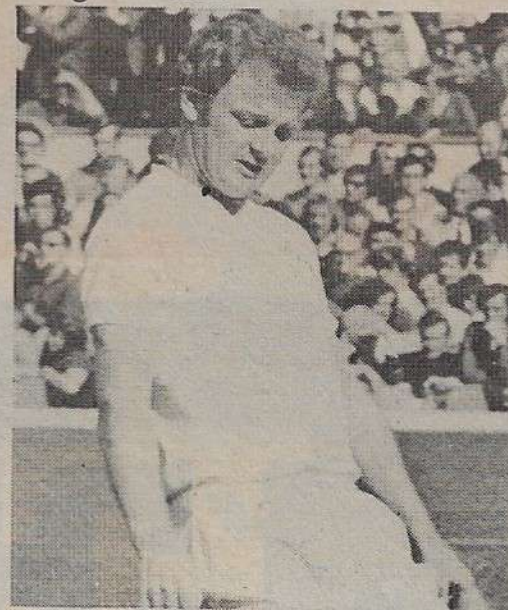
Ivic, 45, has previously been in charge at Benfica, Anderlecht and Ascoli, and last season led Hajduk Split to the Yugoslav Cup.

Oxford have been monitoring the progress of Brighton and Northern Ireland winger STEVE PENNEY and are expected to make a bid as soon as they're satisfied he has made a complete recovery from the broken leg he sustained last term.

... And Lalo makes three!

Twenty one year old LALO MARADONA 21 has made his mark now, following in the footsteps of his more illustrious brothers DIEGO (26) and HUGO (18). The 'middle-man' in the Maradona clan was signed by Spanish second division club Granada.

ARSENAL's recent capture of \$50,000 KEVIN RICHARDSON has not dampened their enthusiasm for Leeds midfield star JOHN SHERIDAN. Elland Road chief BILLY BREMNER is adamant that his hottest property is not for sale, but Gunners boss GEORGE GRAHAM has asked to be the first in line should there be a change of heart.



Clockwise from top left. Billy Bremner, Kenny Dalglish, Ian Rush and Peter Beardsley



LIVERPOOL boss Kenny Dalglish is considering another big money swoop in the transfer market — and Sweden's Anders Limpar is his target.

Dalglish has wasted no time in reinvesting the \$6.4 million banked from selling Ian Rush to Juventus and now, following the signings of Peter Beardsley and John Barnes, is ready to splash out on a midfielder.

He made a special trip to Sweden to watch the 21-year-old Limpar playing for Orgryte and invited him to Anfield for a week's trial.

Limpar was keen to the idea but his club flatly refused, placing a \$1.2 million price tag on Sweden's hottest prospect who burst onto the international scene with a stunning goal earlier this year during the 3-1 victory in the USSR.

Dalglish is now pondering over his next move but time isn't on his side. AC Milan are also studying Limpar's progress very closely.

ORGANISERS of a fund to help injured Cromer schoolboy Justin Bale, who was struck by lightning while playing Soccer four months ago, can't get over the efforts of expatriate footballer Craig Johnston.

Johnston, now a star with the Liverpool side, spoke to them from England about possible help.

On Monday morning, just over 48 hours later, an air-express parcel arrived at the Manly Fisherman's Club.

It contained a Liverpool jumper autographed by the entire side, an autographed football, a pair of autographed boots and six autographed photos.

They'll be auctioned at a lunch to be held at the club on October 11.

A consortium of 12 Glasgow businessmen are putting together a package to buy out Partick's chief shareholder KEN BATES.

The controversial Chelsea chairman owns 66 per cent of shares in the Scottish club, but insists they are not for sale.

The takeover offer is reported to be in the region of \$400,000.

Much-travelled striker Gordon Smith, whose goals helped Austrians Admira Wacker qualify for Europe this season, joined Swiss club Basle as player coach.

Smith has also played for Kilmarnock, Rangers, Brighton and Manchester City, and was a target for Motherwell and Airdrie before accepting a lucrative one-year deal with Basle.

ABERDEEN have been back to Luton to try and work out a compromise deal for striker Mick Harford.

But Luton's asking price of \$4 million is ludicrous for a player whose knees have sets of tramlines along the side after so many operations.

SOVIET League leaders Spartak Moscow have appealed to have their match with Dniepr replayed ... because the referee had blatantly favoured them.

A video tape of the match revealed that Spartak's first goal came from a non-existent penalty and the second never crossed Dniepr's goal-line.

Soviet authorities are considering Spartak's extremely sporting request.

NOW it can be revealed why Ron Atkinson was so keen to become Atletico Madrid's manager — the Spanish club has spent almost \$9 million on six new players during the summer!

And that only includes transfer fees.

Paulo Futre, signed from European Cup winners Porto for \$5 million, receives \$1.2 million a year in wages while defender Andoni Goicoechea collects \$330,000 over the next 12 months.

And new manager Cesar Luis Menotti — eventually chosen in preference to Big Ron — gets his asking price of \$520,000 a year plus double the bonuses paid to the players.

● Lovely comment from Aston Villa's new boss GRAHAM TAYLOR, who says: "When I took over here the playing side was a shambles. Now I think I've improved it to the stage where it's just a mess!"

WEST

END



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